

This price bulletin was developed by researchers at IFPRI Malawi with the goal of providing clear and accurate information on the weekly variation of retail prices for selected agricultural commodities that are important for food security and nutrition in Malawi. The reports are intended as a resource for those interested in agricultural markets in Malawi.

Highlights

- Average retail prices of groundnuts and pigeon peas increased by 10 and 4 percent respectively while common bean and soybeans decreased by 1 and 3 percent respectively.
- Average retail prices of cassava and sweet potatoes decreased by 1 and 41 percent respectively while irish potatoes increased by 10 percent.
- Average retail prices of rice and sorghum increased by 15 and 20 percent respectively.

Legumes

Table 1. Retail prices (MWK/kg) of common beans and pigeon pea by region during February 2022

Market	Common bean					Pigeon pea					Change since Jan week 4	
	Jan	Feb				Jan	Feb				Bean	P.pea
	Week 4	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 4	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4		
North	1200	1150	1150	1150	1175	526	-	-	606	632	↓ -2%	↑ 20%
Jenda	1200	1050	1050	1050	1100	-	-	-	-	-	↓ -8%	-
Karonga-boma	-	1200	1200	1200	1200	526	-	-	606	632	→ 0%	↑ 20%
Mzuzu	-	1300	1300	1225	1300	-	-	-	-	-	→ 0%	-
Center	1263	1345	1345	1417	1325	-	-	-	-	-	↑ 5%	-
Chimbiya	1133	1113	1113	1200	1113	-	-	-	-	-	↓ -2%	-
Mchinji	1450	1700	1700	1550	1700	-	-	-	-	-	→ 0%	-
Mitundu	1267	1400	1400	1500	1350	-	-	-	-	-	↑ 7%	-
South	1392	1310	1310	1380	1340	678	707	744	744	738	↓ -4%	↑ 9%
Balaka	1350	1450	1450	1500	1500	800	750	767	800	800	↑ 11%	→ 0%
Bangula	1200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lunzu	1483	1100	1100	1200	1100	550	700	725	700	700	↓ -26%	↑ 27%
Mangochi	-	-	-	-	-	700	800	775	800	800	-	↑ 14%
Ngabu	-	-	-	-	-	600	600	700	650	650	-	↑ 8%
All markets	1303	1277	1277	1322	1288	663	707	744	731	726	↓ -1%	↑ 10%

Note: - = commodity not monitored or prices not reported in this market.

Table 2. Retail prices (MWK/kg) of soybean and groundnut by region during February 2022

Market	Soyabean					Groundnut					Change since Jan week 4	
	Jan	Feb				Jan	Feb				Soybean	Groundnut
	Week 4	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 4	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4		
North	1283	1270	1270	1250	1350	1079	1167	1167	1192	1160	↑ 5%	↑ 8%
Jenda	-	-	-	-	-	1117	1100	1100	1125	950	-	↓ -15%
Karonga-boma	1350	1350	1350	1350	1350	1000	1300	1300	1300	1300	→ 0%	↑ 30%
Mzuzu	1150	1111	1111	1150	-	1200	900	900	1000	-	→ 0%	↓ -17%
Center	1083	808	808	1057	1000	1092	1117	1117	1129	1150	↓ -8%	↑ 5%
Chimbiya	1067	983	983	1067	1067	917	1033	1033	1033	1067	↑ 8%	↑ 16%
Mchinji	1000	100	100	1000	1000	1250	1200	1200	1200	1200	→ 0%	→ 0%
Mitundu	1150	900	900	1100	900	1300	1200	1200	1200	1250	↓ -22%	↓ -4%
South	1246	1240	1240	1290	1270	1271	1300	1300	1383	1275	↑ 2%	↑ 0%
Balaka	1440	1400	1400	1483	1417	1367	1300	1300	1467	1250	↓ -2%	↓ -9%
Bangula	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lunzu	800	800	800	800	900	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mangochi	1400	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1500	1500	1500	1500	↓ -14%	↑ 25%
Ngabu	-	-	-	-	-	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	-	→ 0%
All markets	1192	1062	1062	1178	1158	1150	1194	1194	1229	1197	↓ -3%	↑ 4%

Note: - = prices not reported from this market; soybean and groundnut are priced per kilogram

Roots and Tubers

Figure 1. Regional average retail prices (MWK/unit) of cassava, Irish potato, and sweet potato during February 2022



Table 3. Retail prices of roots and tubers (MWK/unit) during February 2022

Commodity	Market	Jan	Feb				Change since Jan week 4
		Week 4	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	
Cassava	North	504	578	560	-	-	↑ 11%
	Mpamba	480	640	-	-	-	↑ 33%
	Mzuzu	517	517	560	-	-	↑ 8%
	Nkhatabay-boma	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Center	-	440	440	440	496	↑ 13%
	Chinkhoma	-	440	440	440	496	↑ 13%
	Kaw amba	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Mitundu	-	-	-	-	-	-
	South	297	499	328	343	346	↑ 17%
	Limbe	286	-	245	320	304	↑ 6%
Namw era turn-of	320	499	411	389	389	↑ 21%	
All markets	401	524	443	383	396	↓ -1%	
Sweet potato	South	352	328	312	281	295	↓ -16%
	Bangw e	333	292	250	250	250	↓ -25%
	Chilobw e	333	292	306	306	278	↓ -17%
	Chinakanaka	400	400	400	250	325	↓ -19%
	Ndirande	333	-	267	292	333	→ 0%
	Zingw anga	-	-	-	-	-	-
	All markets	502	328	312	281	295	↓ -41%
Irish potato	North	1050	550	1025	1000	1000	↓ -5%
	Jenda	1050	550	1025	1000	1000	↓ -5%
	Center	507	645	671	629	658	↑ 30%
	Lizulu-Lilongw e	475	600	550	550	500	↑ 5%
	Lizulu	533	650	700	633	633	↑ 19%
	Tsangano turn-of	500	663	750	775	775	↑ 55%
	South	633	632	750	781	678	↑ 7%
	Blantyre market	617	706	850	863	656	↑ 6%
	Limbe	650	583	683	700	700	↑ 8%
	All markets	629	624	750	728	694	↑ 10%

Note: - = prices not reported from this market; cassava and Irish potatoes are priced per kilogram; sweet potatoes are priced per heap.

Other Cereals

Figure 2. Regional average retail prices (MWK/kg) of rice during February 2022

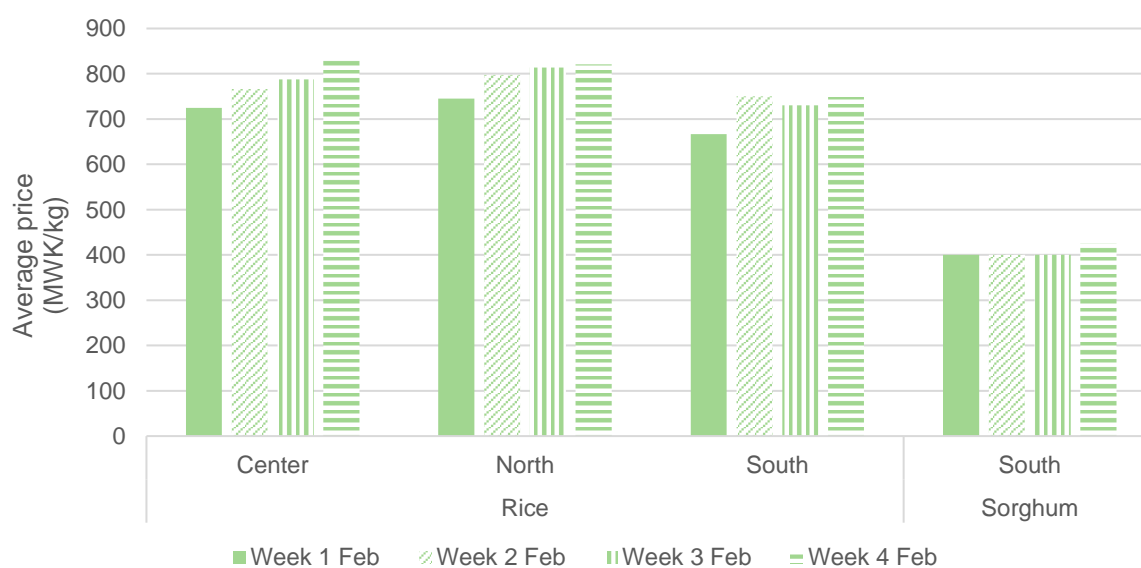


Table 4. Retail prices of other cereals (MWK/kg) during February 2022

Commodity	Market	Jan	Feb				Change since Jan week 4	
		Week 4	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4		
Rice	North	705	745	798	814	821	↑	16%
	Karonga-boma	775	775	833	833	900	↑	16%
	Mzimba-boma	900	900	900	900	900	→	0%
	Nkhatabay-boma	700	850	1000	800	1000	↑	43%
	Pusi	800	800	783	875	800	→	0%
	Wovwe	533	567	613	688	663	↑	8%
	Center	725	725	767	788	833	↑	15%
	Nkhotakota-boma	700	700	700	800	800	↑	14%
	Salima-kamuzu road	750	750	800	775	850	↑	13%
	South	651	667	750	730	749	↑	15%
	Chiringa	617	650	750	767	783	↑	27%
	Phalombe	750	750	800	800	817	↑	9%
	Songani	620	617	717	670	630	↓	-6%
	All markets	689	718	775	779	792	↑	15%
Sorghum	South	350	400	400	400	425	↑	21%
	Chikwawa	350	350	350	350	350	→	0%
	Ngabu	-	400	-	350	-	↓	-13%
	Nsanje	-	500	500	500	500	→	0%
	All markets	350	400	400	400	425	↑	21%

Note: - = prices not reported from this market; rice and sorghum are priced per kilogram

How data were collected

With financial support from the European Union, IFPRI Malawi began monitoring retail prices of selected legumes, roots and tubers, and non-maize cereals* in selected markets in February 2020. Currently, prices are collected from 44 markets across the country, with monitoring occurring once per week. Three monitors report prices from each market. Data is collected by means of automated short message service (SMS) with follow-ups made by telephone the next day if needed. The commodities monitored are being phased-in, starting with legumes, root crops and other cereals, and then expanding to include livestock products and fish by the end of March 2022. Note that the number of markets monitored vary by commodity because major markets are targeted in areas where these commodities are widely produced.

* daily retail prices for maize are available from our [monthly maize market reports](#)



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