

PAPUA NEW GUINEA FOOD PRICE BULLETIN

February 2026

This bulletin reports on food price trends from major markets in Papua New Guinea, for the fourth quarter (Q4) of 2025 based on data collected by Fresh Produce Development Authority (FPDA). Consistent data collection continues to be a challenge during the fourth quarter: no data was collected for the month of October (except for one round in Goroka and Kokopo, respectively). To provide up-to-date analysis, this bulletin incorporates all available data from October 2025 - January 2026 data. For Port Moresby, food price data were collected only for December and one round in January.

This report compares Q4 2025 (November & December) prices with the same period in 2024 and 2023. Prices are reported in PGK per kilogram and represent real prices adjusted for inflation using the FAO Consumer Food Price Index (PCI) and price gaps (July 2025 to January 2026) filled using a growth rate calculated from the PNG National Statistical Office - June quarterly PCI data. This bulletin focuses on selected important staples (sweet potato, taro, cassava, cooking banana and rice), vegetables (aibika, English cabbage, capsicum, carrot, and choko-tips) and fruits (lemon, orange, pawpaw and pineapple). For longer time series data and interactive tools, visit the [IFPRI](https://www.ifpri.org) website and download food price data [here](#).

Staple crop price trends

During the period between November 2025 through January 2026, staple prices remained relatively stable (particularly for sweet potato) across major markets. Price increases for taro were notable in Goroka and Port Moresby markets, whereby in Goroka, taro increased on average by 69 percent (from 2.5 PGK/kg in November to 3.8 PGK/kg in

SUMMARY

Download time series food price data, and build graphs and tables for over 20 different food crops at our food price database webpage:

<https://www.ifpri.org/project/fresh-food-price-analysis-papua-new-guinea>

Staple crops: prices remained relatively stable in 2025. Cooking banana was 8 percent lower and sweet potato 5.5 percent lower (except Goroka and Mt Hagen) compared to 2024. In lowland markets of Lae, sweet potato and cassava were 32 percent lower.

Rice: the average price of a 1kg bag of rice remained stable throughout the year. Compared to Q4 2024, rice prices were 7.4 percent lower in Q4 2025 across all markets except Kokopo.

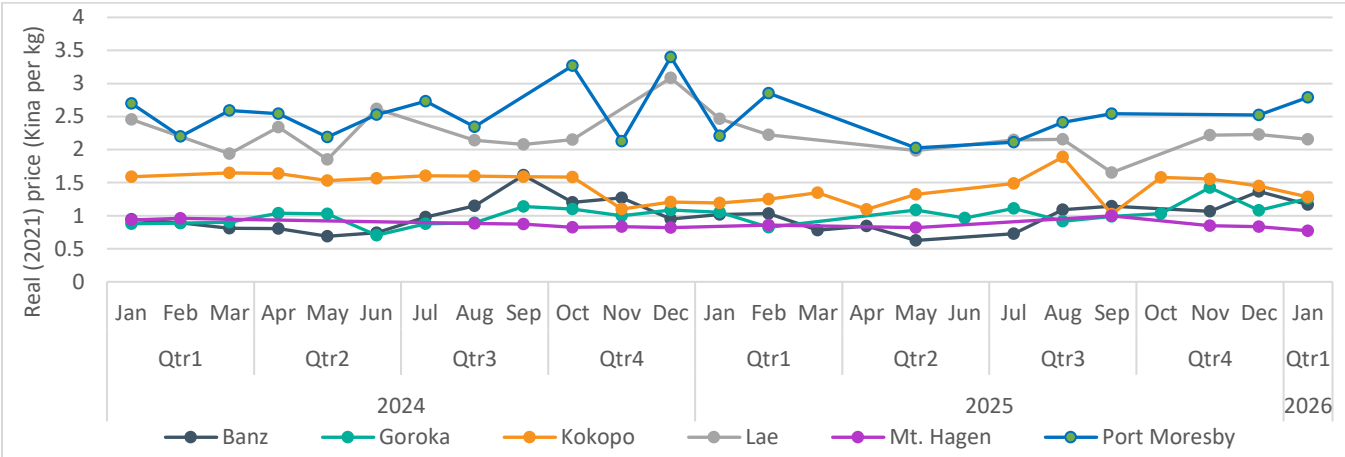
Vegetable: The average price of most vegetables increased from November 2025 to January 2026. Compared to Q4 2024, the real prices of vegetables in Lae and Mt Hagen were lower in Q4 of 2025.

Fruit price: during November 2025 to January 2026, prices of lemon and pineapple decreased while orange and pawpaw increased in most markets. The average real price of fruit in Port Moresby costs up to three times more than other markets.

January 2026. Cooking banana price decreased across all lowland markets of Lae, Port Moresby and Kokopo, but it increased in the highland markets except for Mt Hagen.

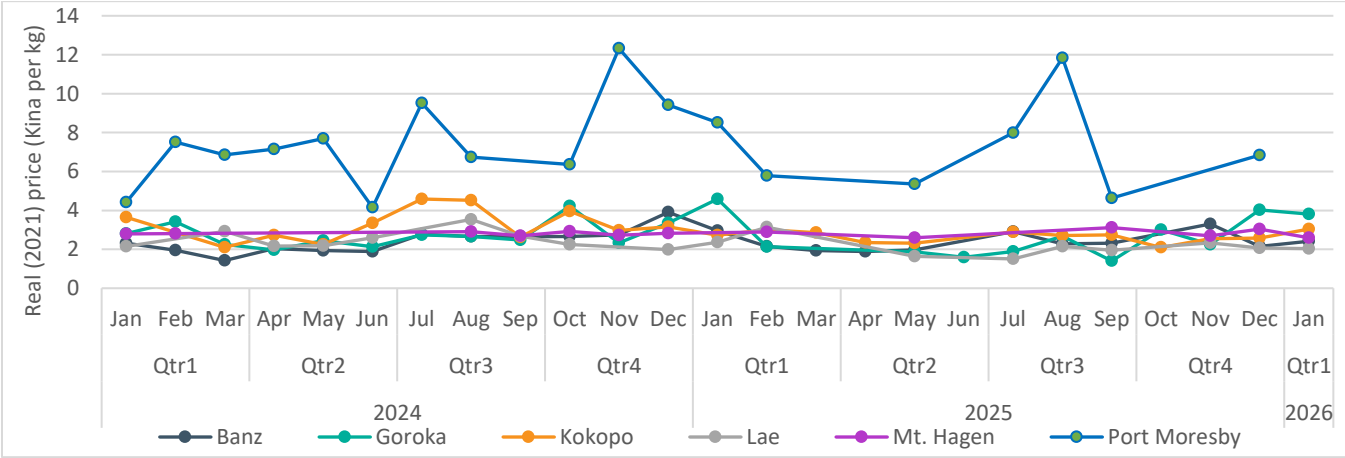
Comparing Q4 2025 with Q4 2024 (using November and December data for both periods), the real price of sweet potato was higher in 2025 by an average of 14 percent in Banz, Goroka, Mt Hagen and Kokopo markets. Conversely, the real price of sweet potato in Lae and Port Moresby were 18 percent lower. Compared to Q4 2024, the real price of cassava was 23 percent lower in Goroka and Lae, but 11percent higher in Banz, Kokopo and Mt Hagen. The real price of cooking banana was 27 percent more costly across all markets in Q4 2025 compared to Q4 2024, except for Banz where the cooking banana price was 18 percent less expensive (Figure 1 to 4).

Figure 1: Real price of sweet potato across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)



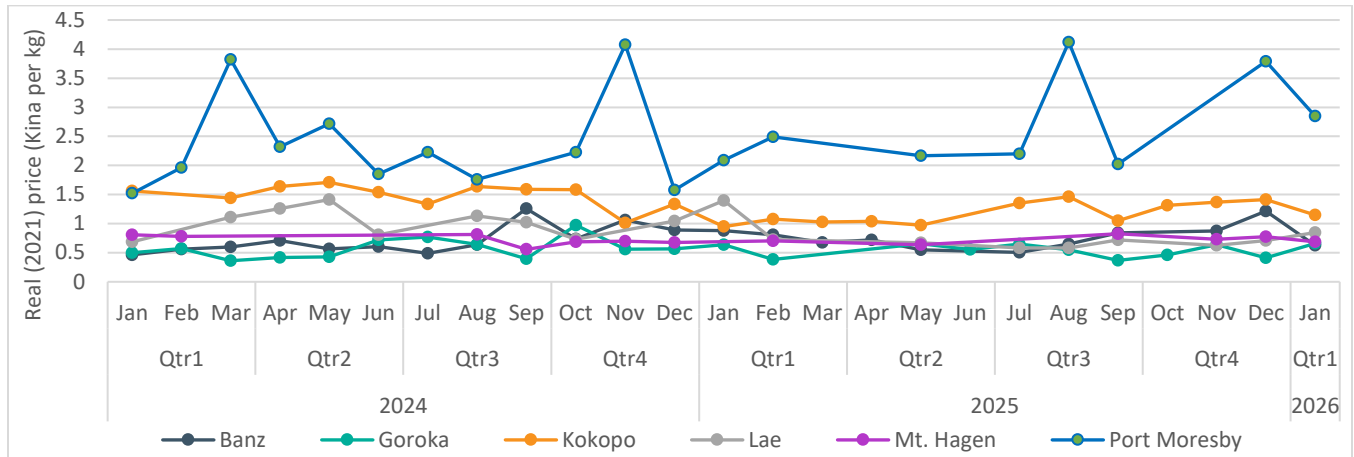
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

Figure 2: Real price of taro across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)



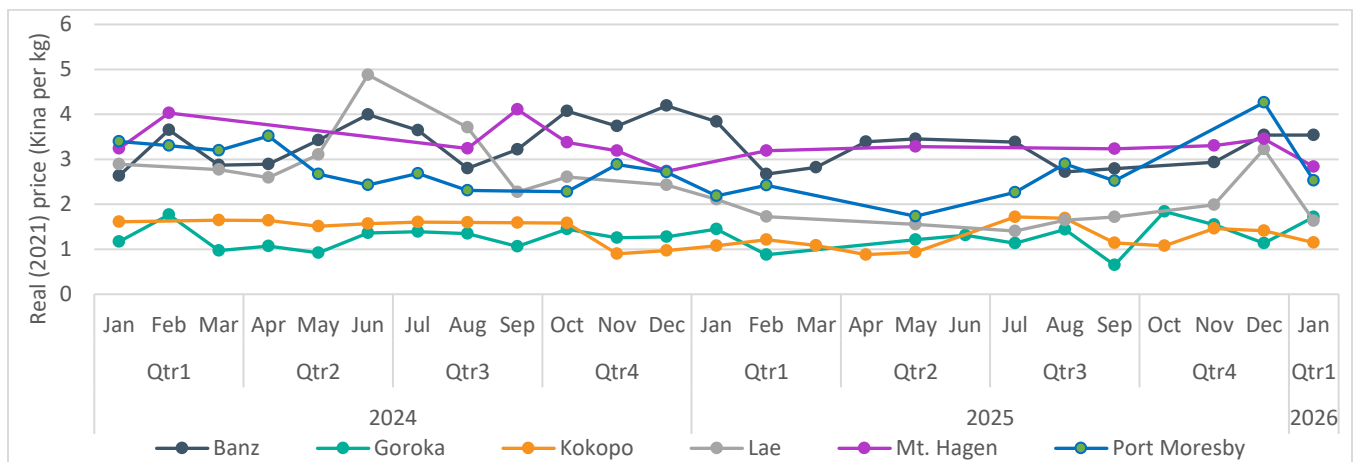
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

Figure 3: Real price of cassava across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)



Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

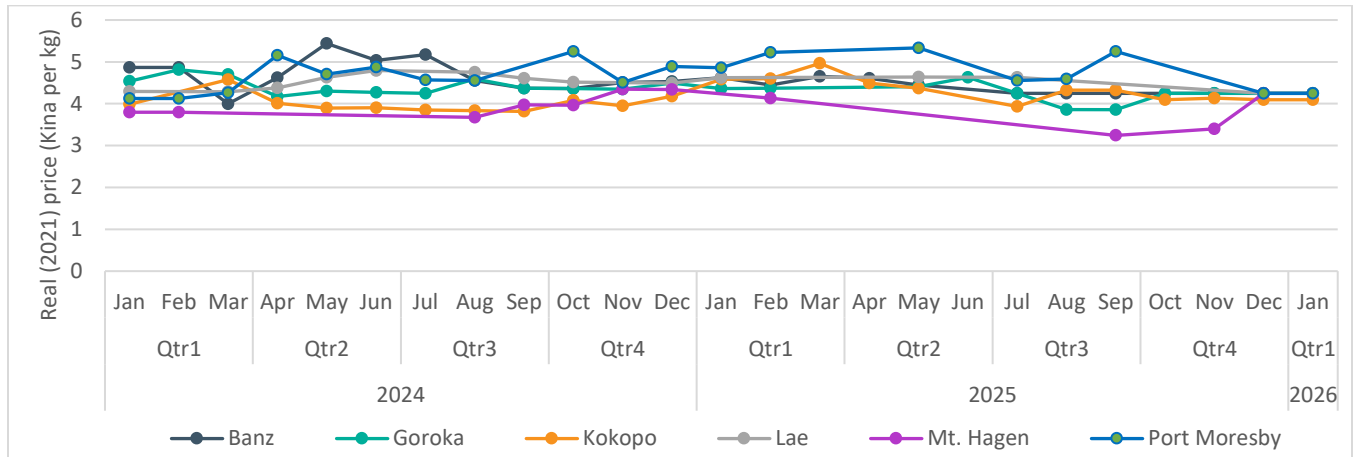
Figure 4: Real price of cooking banana across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)



Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

During the period between November 2025 and January 2026, the price of a 1kg bag of rice remained relatively stable across all markets, with the exception of Mt Hagen, where it increased by 25 percent. Comparing Q4 of 2024 with Q4 2025, the real price of a 1kg bag of rice was 7.4 percent lower in Q4 2025 across all markets except Kokopo, where it remained relatively stable. Four out of six markets recorded the same average price in Q4 2025, except in Kokopo and Mt Hagen where 1kg rice costs 4.11 PGK/kg and 3.82 PGK/kg, respectively.

Figure 5: Real price of rice (1 kilo bag) across 6 FPDA markets



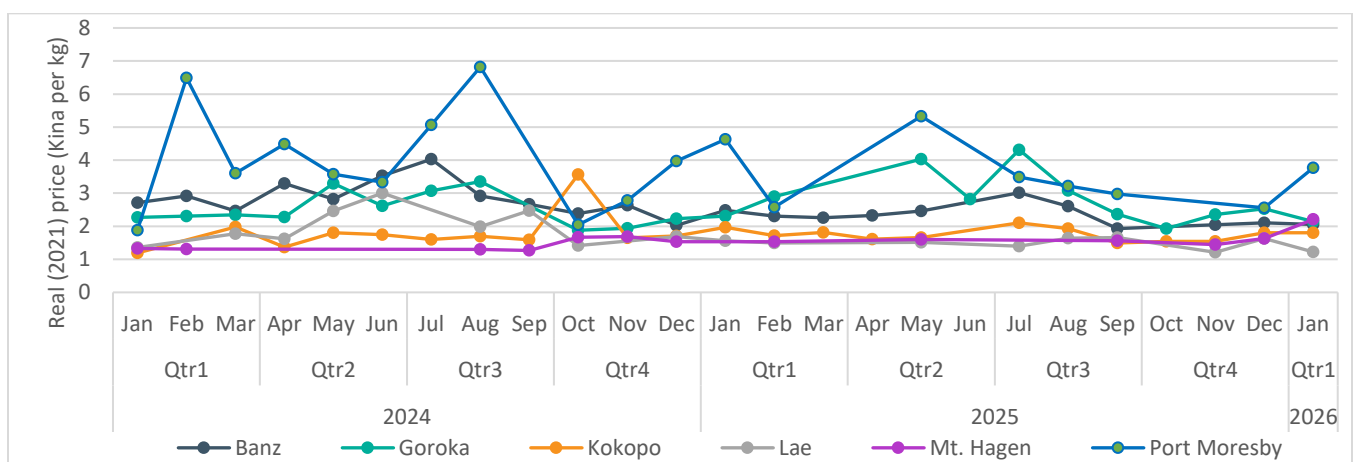
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

Vitamin-dense food prices

During the period November 2025 to January 2026, vitamin dense vegetable prices showed mixed price trends between highland and lowland markets. In Mt Hagen, prices of aibika, capsicum and carrot increased on average by 47.6 percent. In lowland markets, the price of aibika and English cabbage increased on average by 40 percent in Kokopo, while the same commodity prices in Lae remained relatively stable compared to earlier 2025 prices.

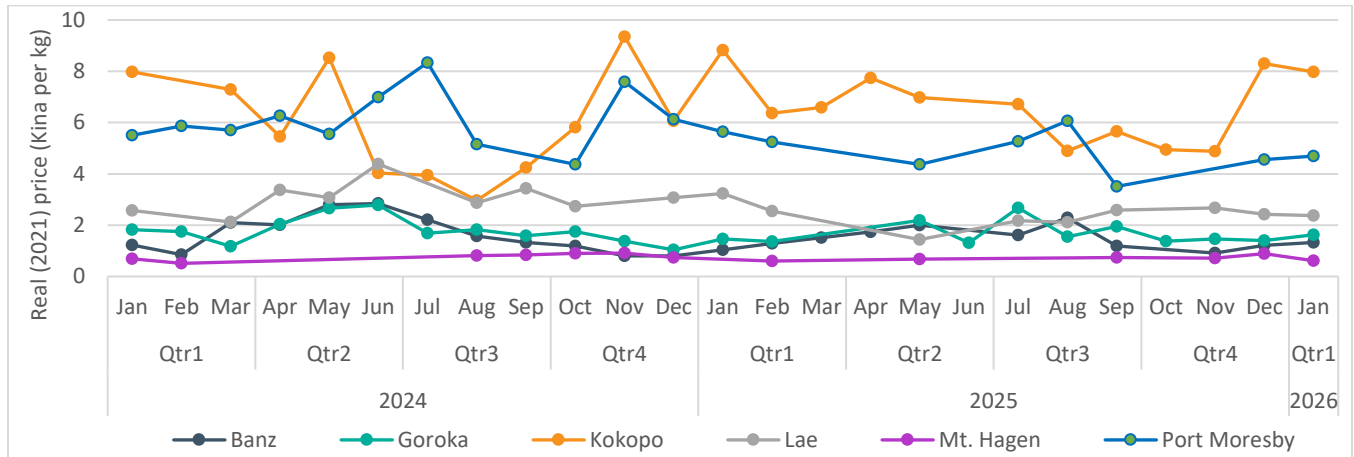
Compared to Q4 2024, price of aibika across all markets was 11.1 percent less expensive in Q4 2025, except in Goroka where 2025 aibika prices were higher compared to 2024. In Goroka, the real price of carrots was nearly double in Q4 2025 compared to Q4 2024. Vegetable prices in Mt Hagen and Lae generally were 15.6 percent and 8.9 percent, respectively, less expensive in Q4 2025 (Figure 6 to 10).

Figure 6: Real price of aibika across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)



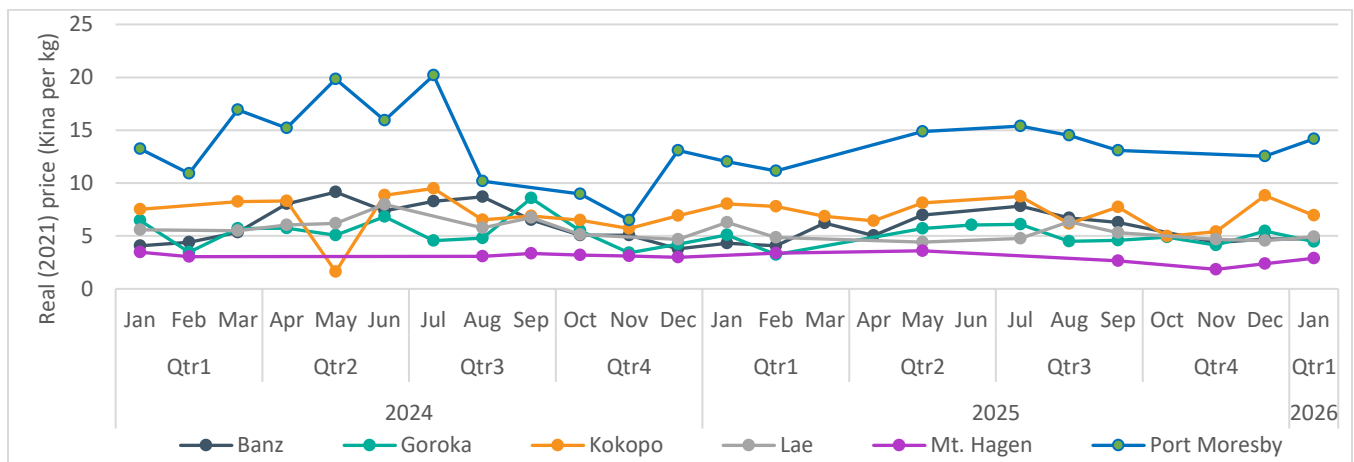
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

Figure 7: Real price of English cabbage across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)



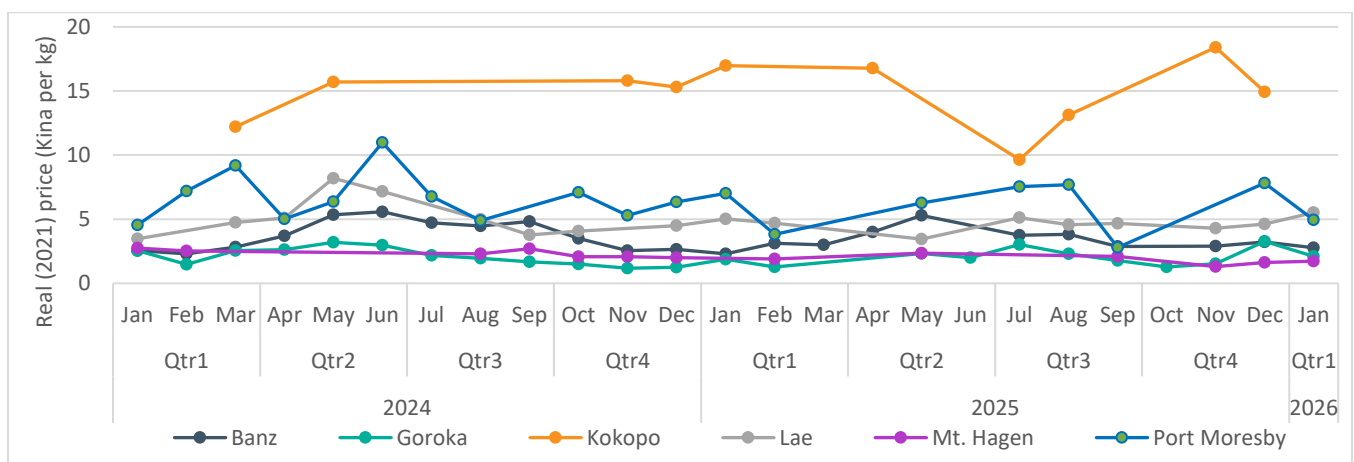
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

Figure 8: Real price of capsicum across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)



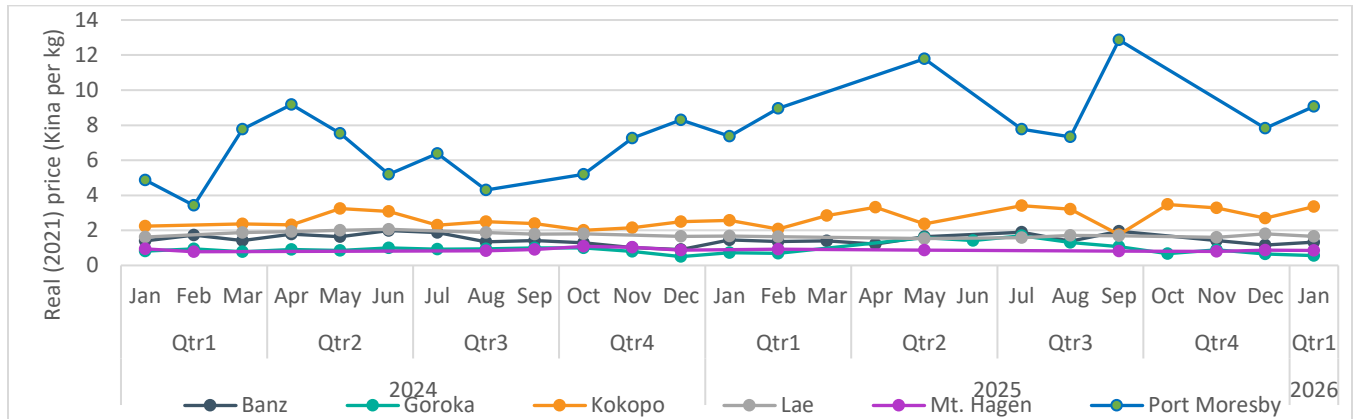
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

Figure 9: Real price of carrot across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)



Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

Figure 10: Real price of choko-tips across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)

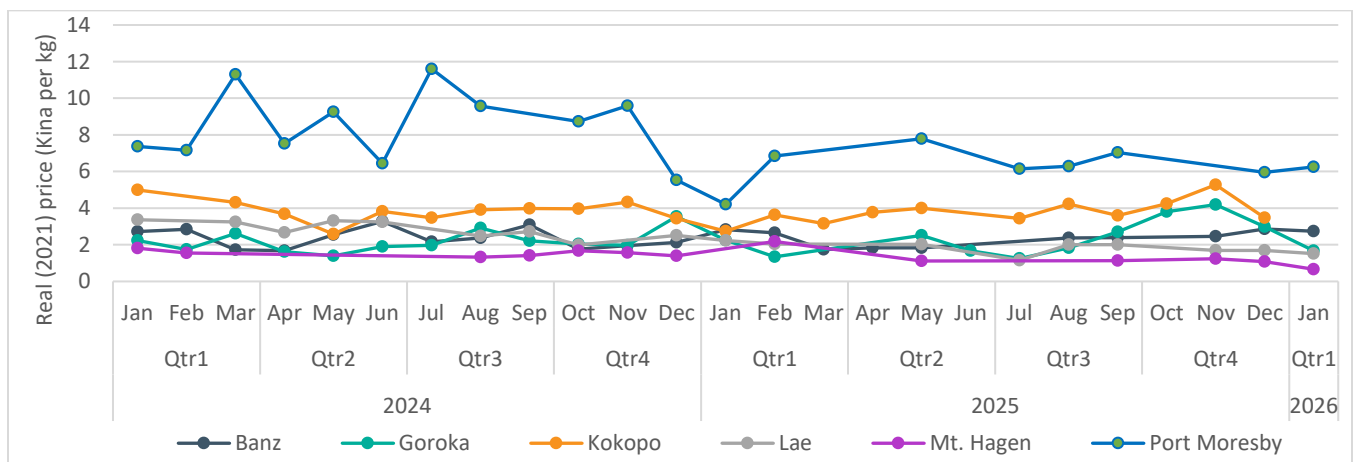


Source: FPDA market retail price database. *Note: The recorded price of choko-tips for December 2024 was replaced with the 3-month average given the originally collected value was more than 2 times previous and future values. This may be due to limited supply at the market or data collection error.

Fresh fruit price trends

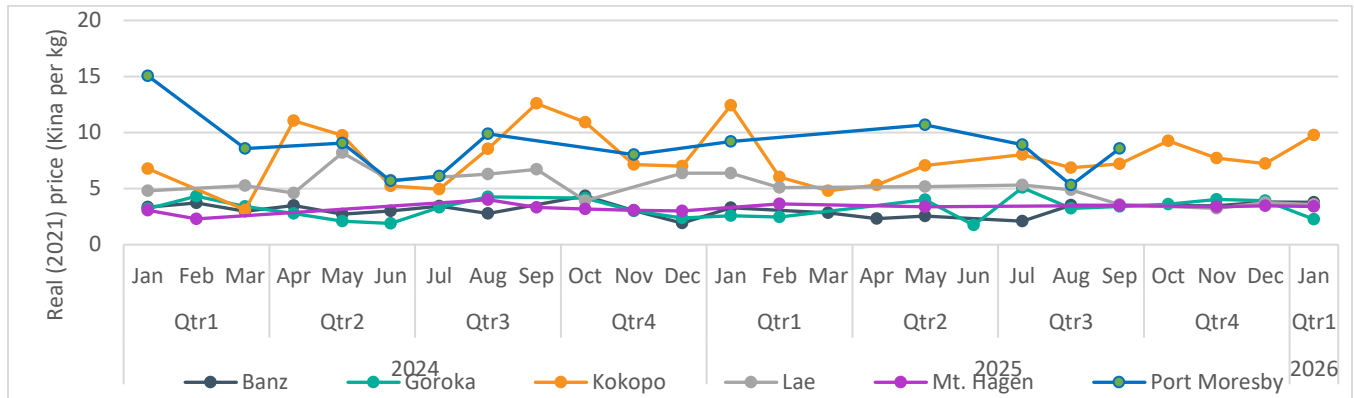
During the period between November 2025 and January 2026, fruits prices showed relatively stable price trends except for Port Moresby, where the price of pawpaw increased in December and the price of pineapple fell in December. Comparing Q4 2025 with Q4 2024, the prices of lemon and orange in Banz, Goroka and Kokopo were higher on average by 24.3 percent and 33.5 percent, respectively. Across all markets, prices of pawpaw in Q4 2025 are generally 10 percent lower compared to Q4 2024. Compared to annual average prices, fruits in Port Moresby were two to three times more expensive than the average of other markets.

Figure 11: Real price of lemon across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)



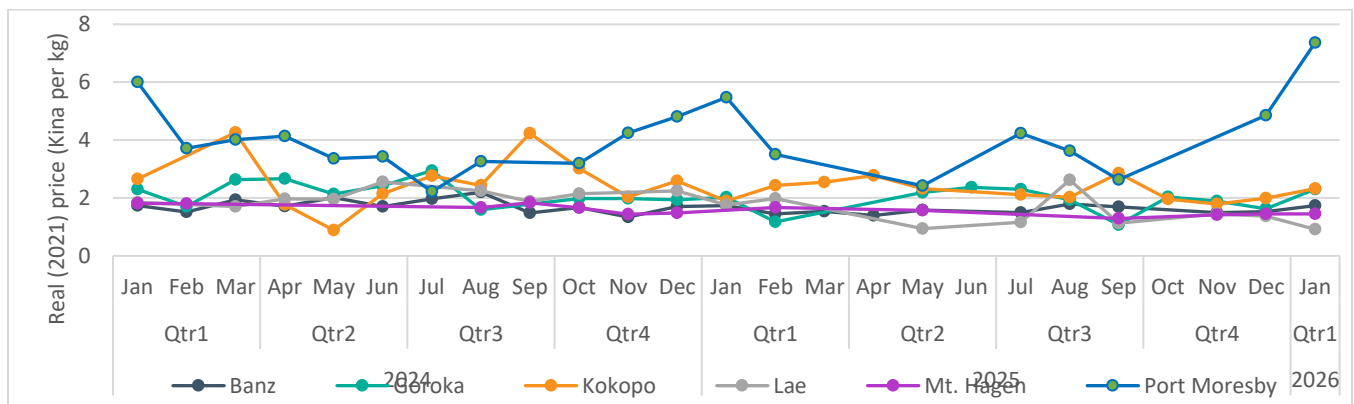
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

Figure 12: Real price of orange across 6 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)



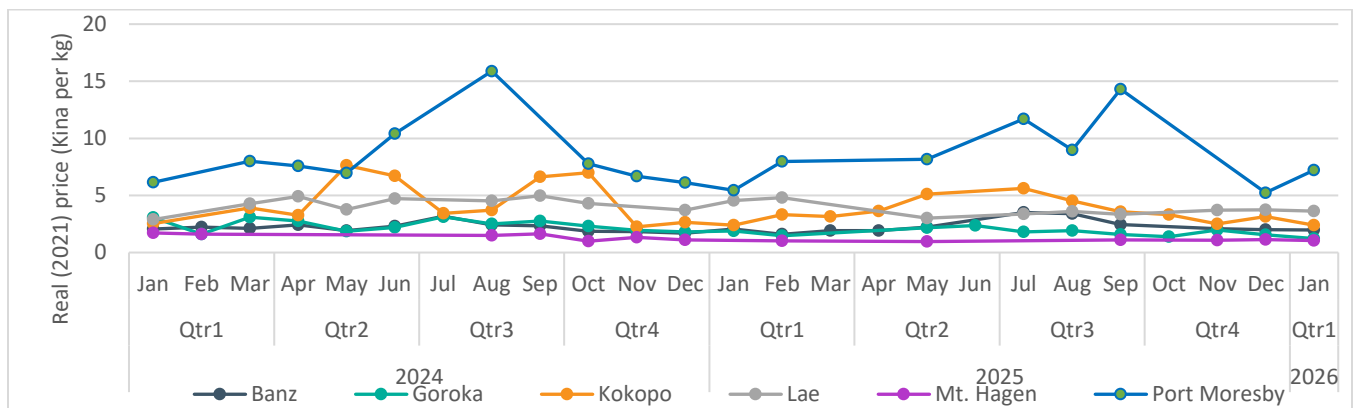
Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

Figure 13: Real price of pawpaw across 4 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)



Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

Figure 14: Real price of pineapple across 4 FPDA markets (PGK / kg)



Source: Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) market retail price database.

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