SUDAN

IFPRI

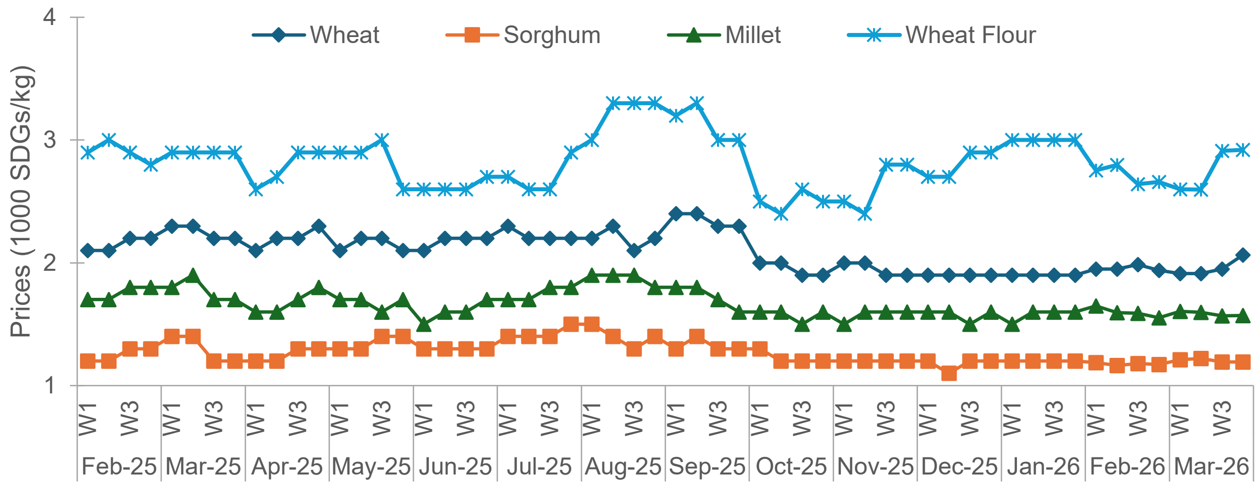
INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Essential Commodities Prices, Availability, and Market Actors’ Perceptions

March 2026*

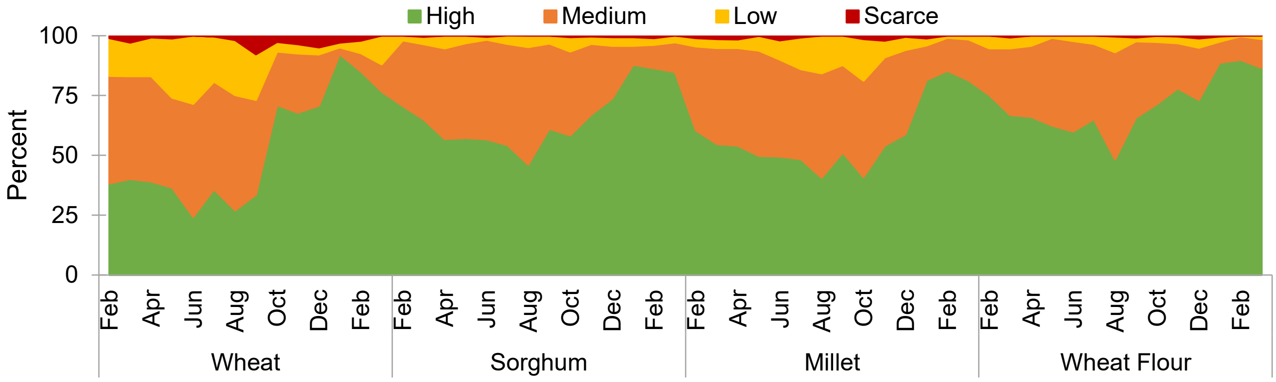
Cereals and Flour

The following figure presents weekly average local prices of cereals and wheat flour (SDG/kg) from February 2025 to March 2026. Sorghum and millet prices remained stable during February and March 2026, while those of wheat and wheat flour slightly increased.

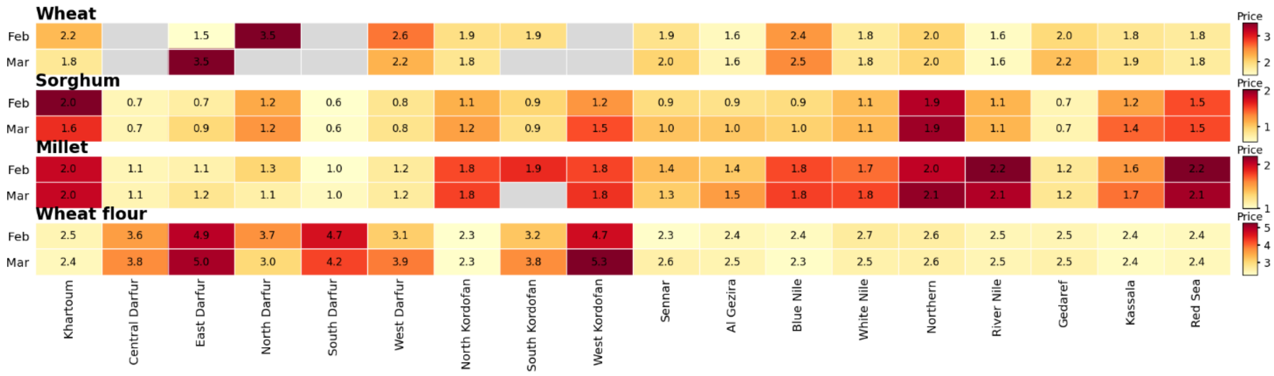


The availability scores for cereals and wheat flour from February 2025 to March 2026 are shown in the figure below indicating a slight decline in perceived availability across all commodities in March 2026 compared to February.

* Citation: Rakhy, Tarig; Mohamed, Shima; Abushama, Hala; Nigus, Halefom Yigzaw; Suliman, Gotada; and Siddig, Khalid. 2026. Essential commodities prices, availability, and market actors’ perceptions: January 2026. Sudan Market Prices and Availability Report 14. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute.

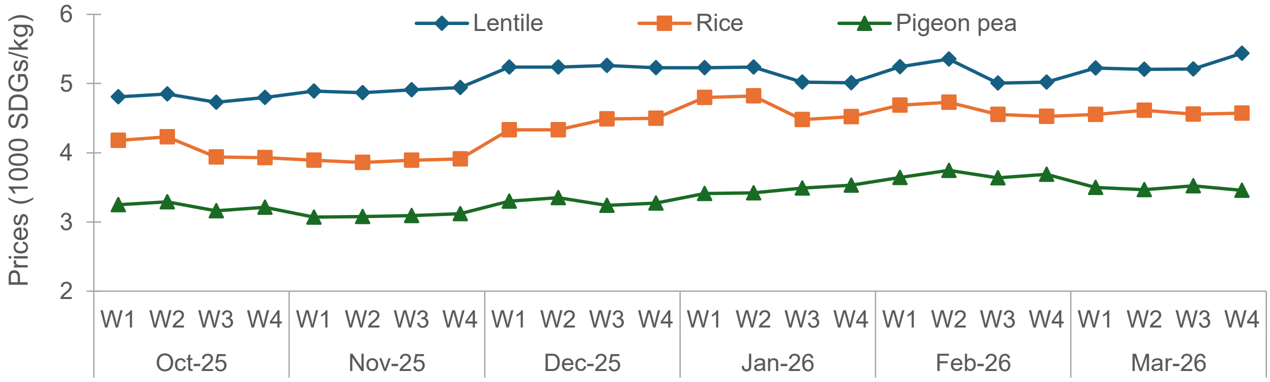


In March 2026, wheat prices were highest in North and East Darfur, and lowest in Al Gezira and River Nile. Sorghum prices were highest in Northern and Khartoum state and lowest in Darfur, Kordofan states, and Gedaref. Millet recorded the highest prices in Red Sea, River Nile, Northern, and Khartoum. Wheat flour remained relatively stable across states, with the highest prices recorded in West Kordofan and East Darfur states (heatmap).

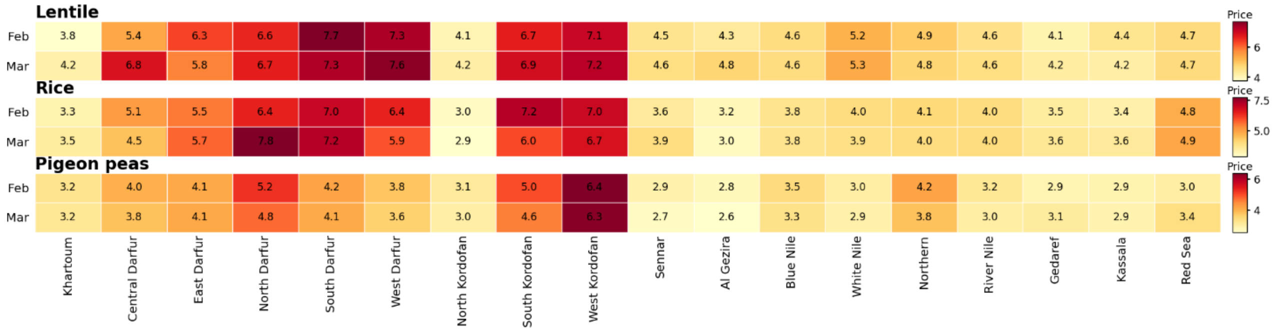


Lentils, Rice, and Pigeon Peas

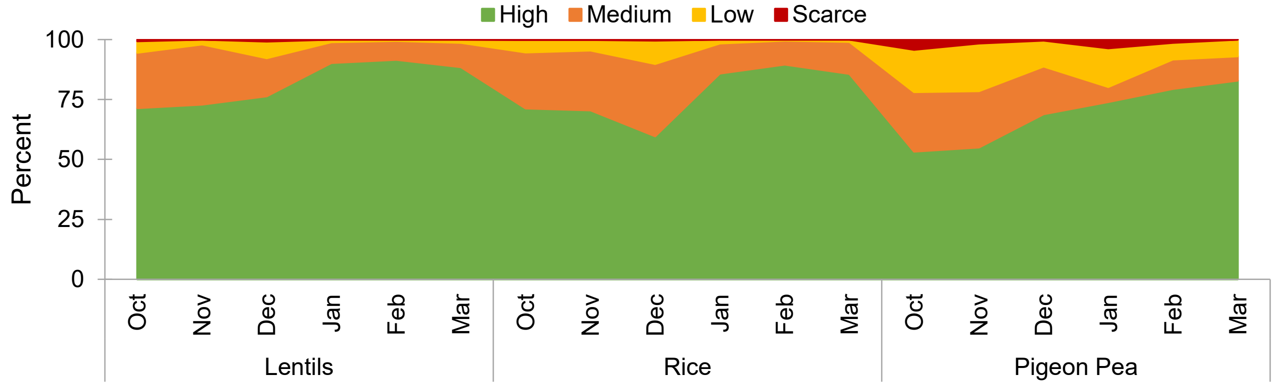
Local prices of lentils, rice, and pigeon peas (weekly averages, 1,000 SDG/kg, October 2025–March 2026), shown the figure below, remained stable during March 2026 with lentil prices increasing toward the end of the month.



The heatmap below of monthly average prices of lentils, rice, and pigeon peas across states (1,000 SDG/kg) for February–March 2026, indicates that the Darfur states, together with West and South Kordofan, recorded the highest prices for the commodities compared to other states.

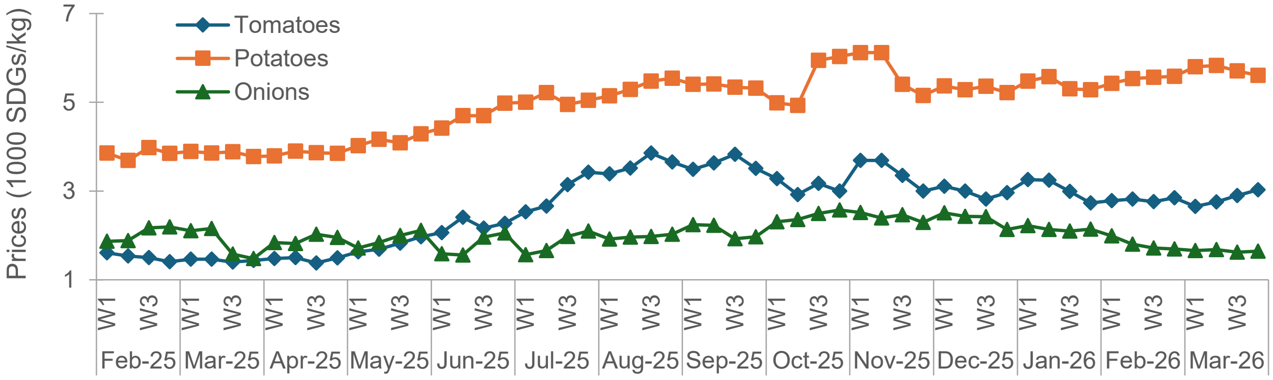


The availability scores for lentils, rice, and pigeon peas (October 2025–March 2026), shows that in March 2026 the share of traders reporting “high” availability declined for lentils and rice, but increased for pigeon peas.

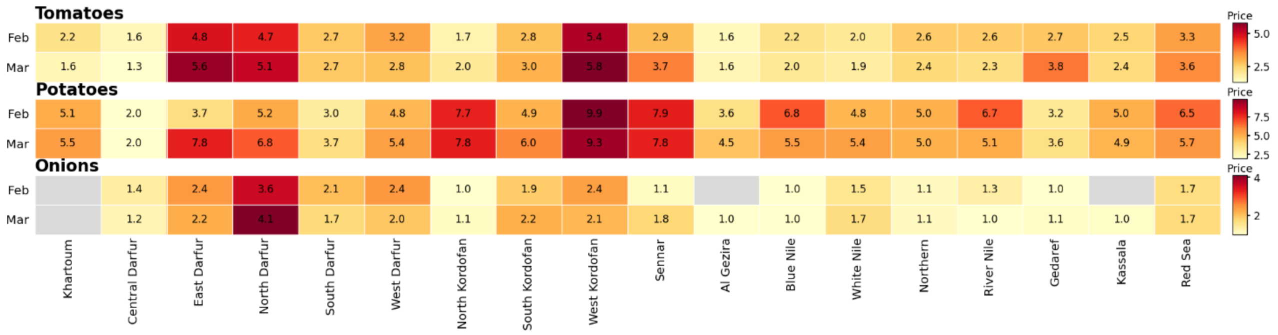


Vegetables

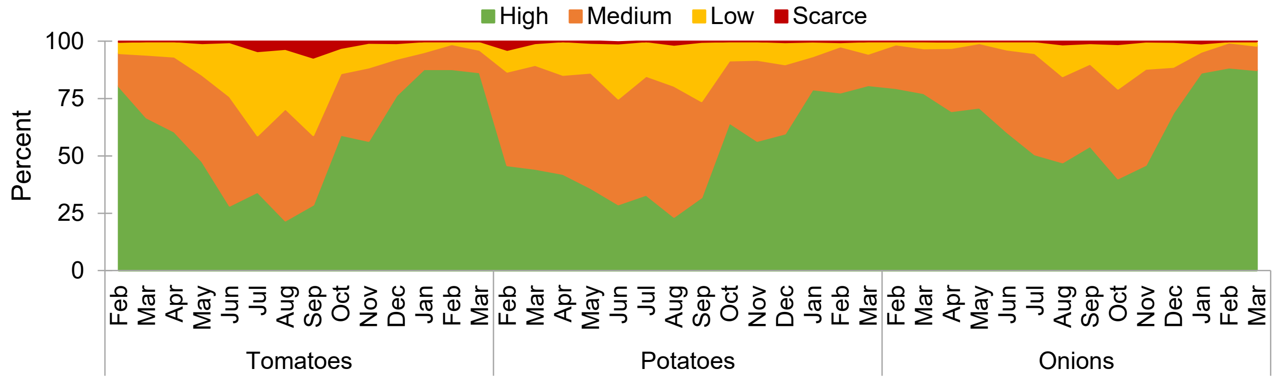
Potato and tomato prices (weekly averages, SDG/kg, February 2025 – March 2026 increased slightly in March 2026 compared with February, while onion prices declined slightly and remained stable throughout March.



The heatmap of monthly average prices of vegetables across states (1,000 SDG/kg, February - March 2026), shows that the highest tomato prices in March were recorded in West Kordofan, East and North Darfur states. Potato prices were highest in West and North Kordofan states, Sennar and East Darfur. Onion prices were highest in North Darfur state, while remaining relatively low and stable across most other states.

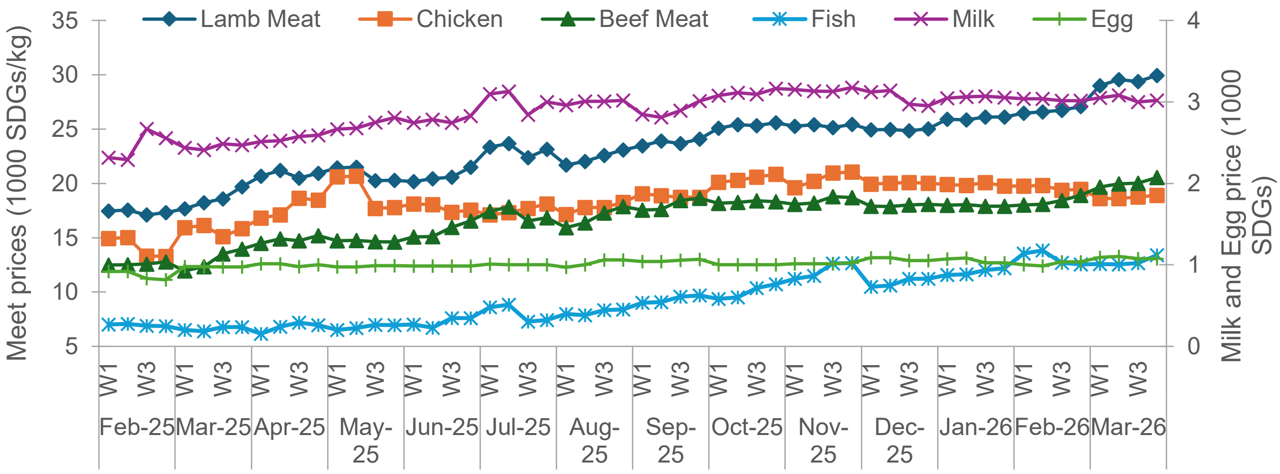


Availability scores (February 2025–March 2026), indicates a slight decline in the share of traders reporting high availability of tomatoes and onions and a modest increase in potato availability.

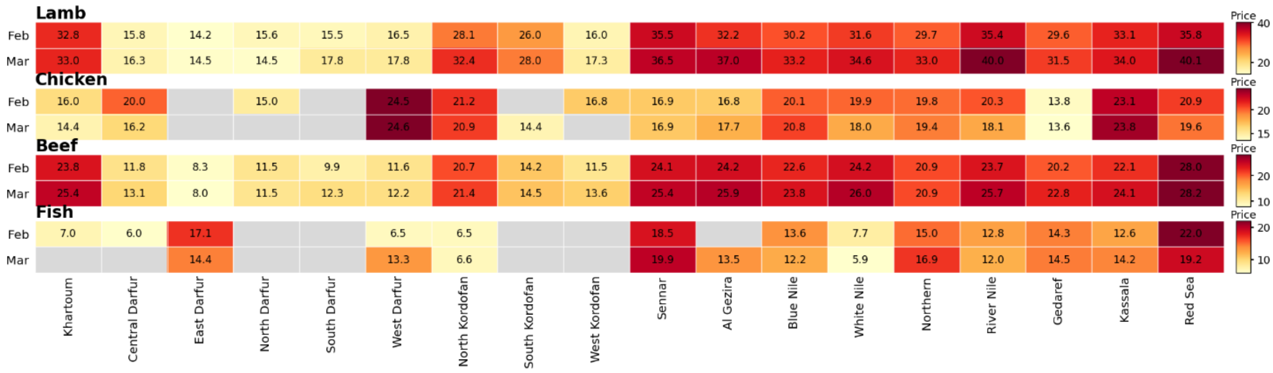


Meat and Animal Products

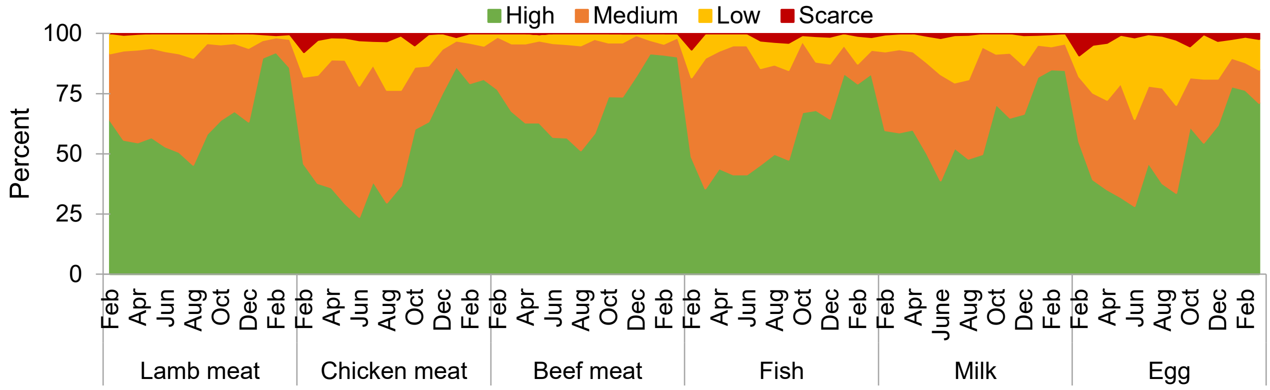
Retails prices of meat and animal products (weekly averages, SDG/kg, February 2025–March 2026) increased for lamb and beef, while remaining stable for chicken, milk, and eggs in March 2026.



The heatmap of retail prices of meat and animal products across states (1,000 SDG/kg) for February–March 2026, indicates that in March 2026, Darfur, West Kordofan, and South Kordofan recorded lower prices for lamb and beef compared to other states, while the highest chicken prices were observed in West Darfur.

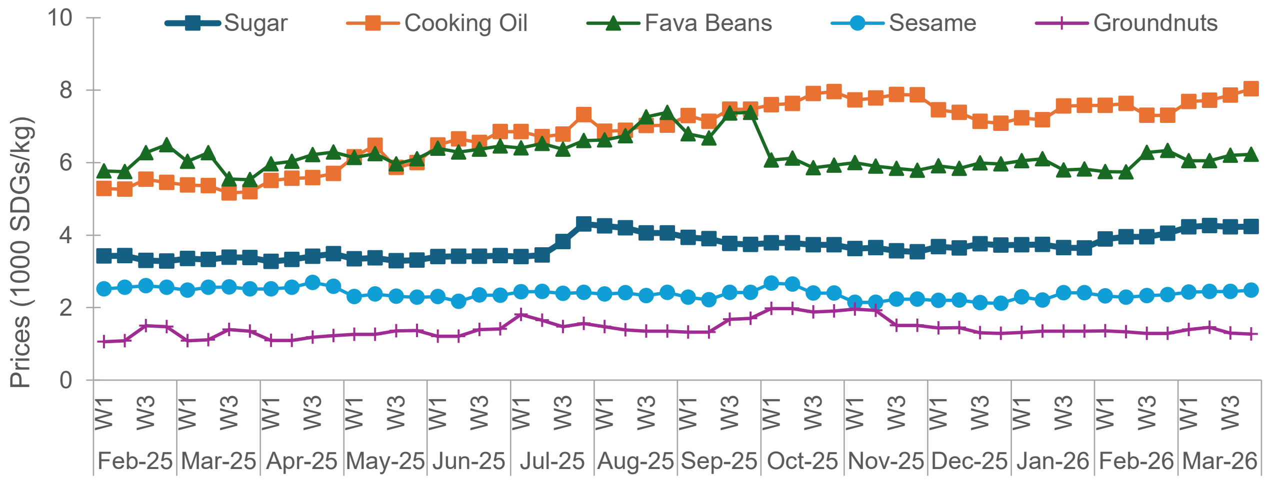


Perceived high availability scores for meat and animal products (February 2025–March 2026 declined for lamb and eggs, while it increased for chicken and fish.

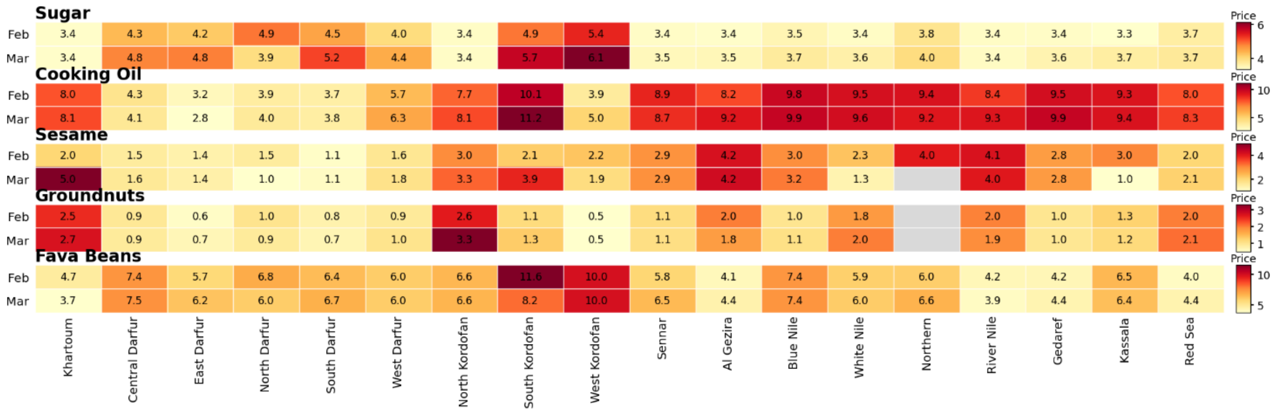


Oilseeds, Cooking Oil, Sugar, and Fava Beans

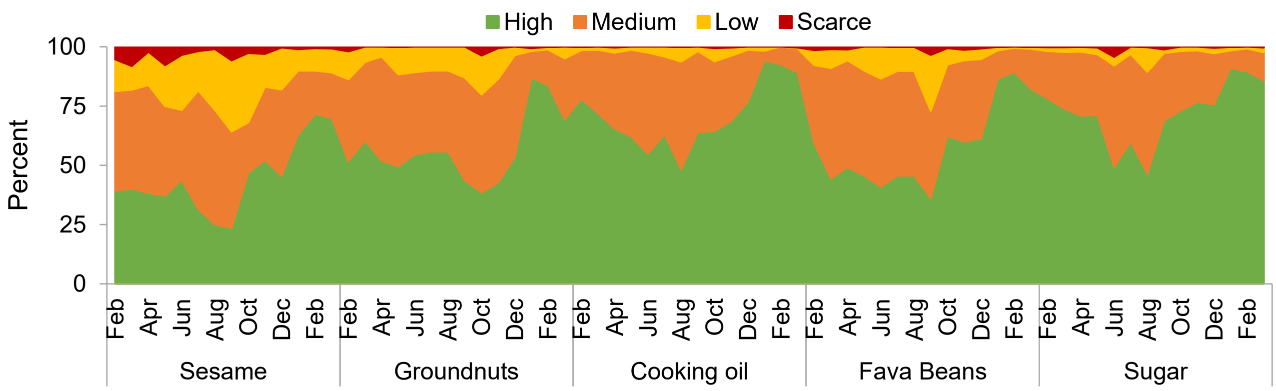
Retail prices of oilseeds (kg), cooking oil (liter), sugar (kg), and fava beans (kg) (1,000 SDG) from February 2025 to March 2026 increased for sugar and cooking oil and remained stable for sesame and groundnuts in March 2026.



The prices heatmap of oilseeds, cooking oil, sugar, and fava beans across states (1,000 SDG) for February–March 2026, indicates that the Darfur states recorded lower prices for cooking oil, sesame, and groundnuts, but higher prices for sugar and fava beans compared to other states in March 2026.

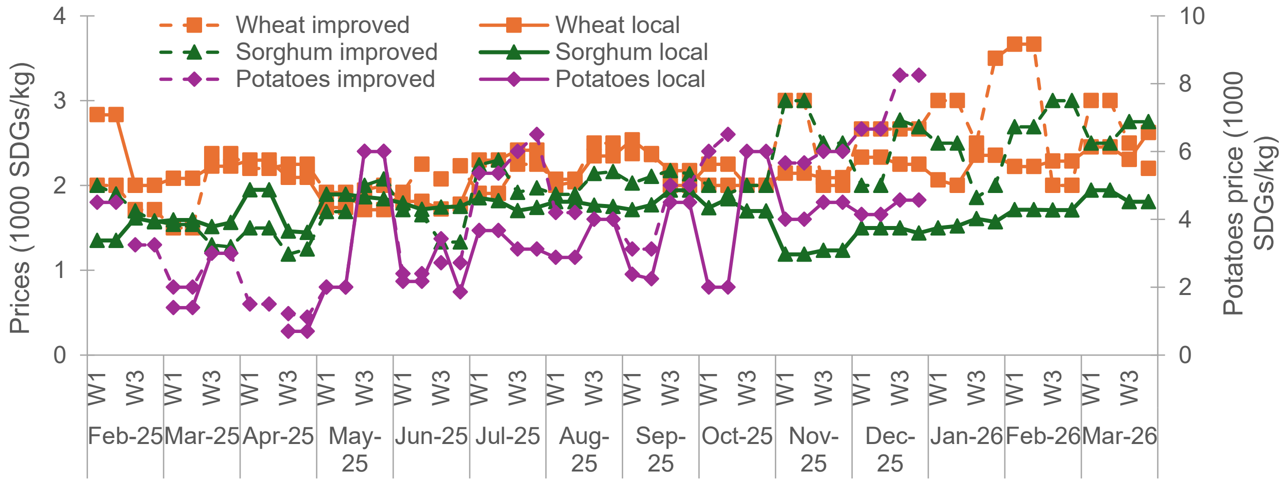


Perceived high availability scores for oilseeds, cooking oil, sugar, and fava beans (February 2025–March 2026) declined for all commodities in March 2026.



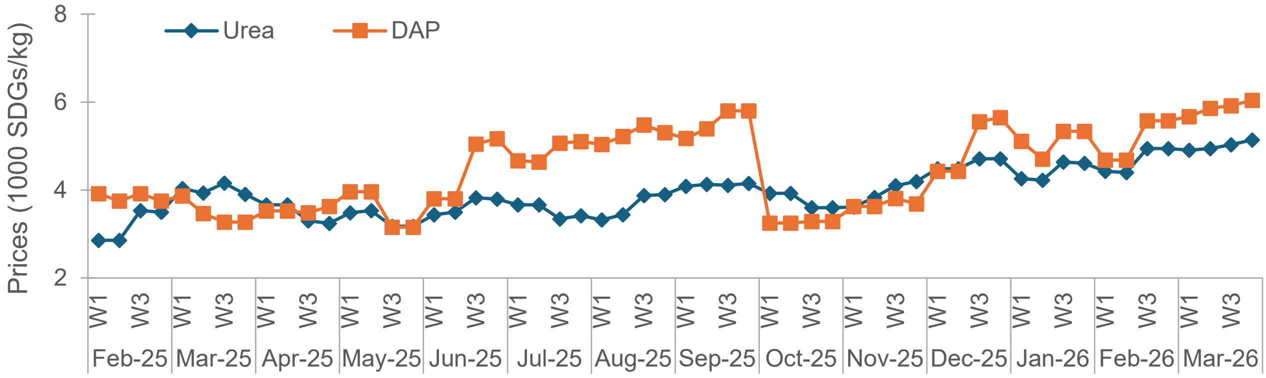
Seeds (Improved and Local)

Retail seed prices (1,000 SDG/kg, monthly averages, February 2025– March 2026) for improved wheat seed slightly increased and then dropped slightly in March, while prices of seeds overall remain stable.

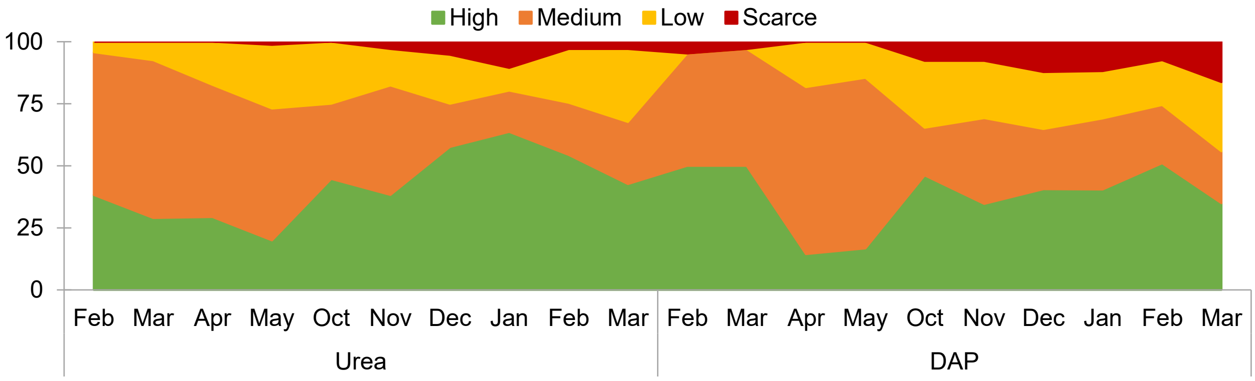


Fertilizers

Retail fertilizer prices (1,000 SDG/kg, monthly averages, February 2025– March 2026) f continuously and slowly increased during March. Since December 2025, DAP prices remained consistently higher than those of urea.

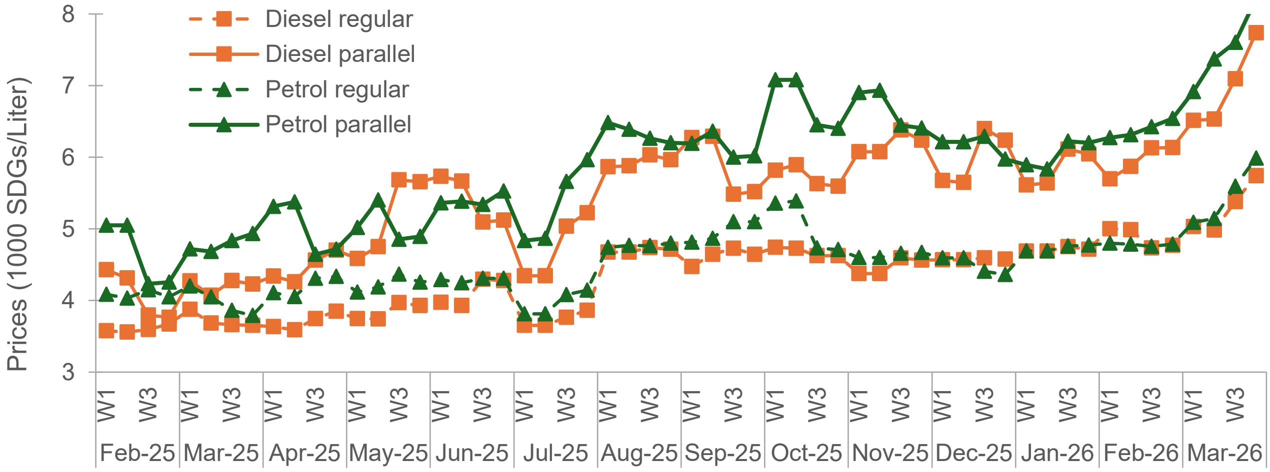


Perceived high availability scores (February 2025– March 2026) of urea and DAP decreased in February compared to March.

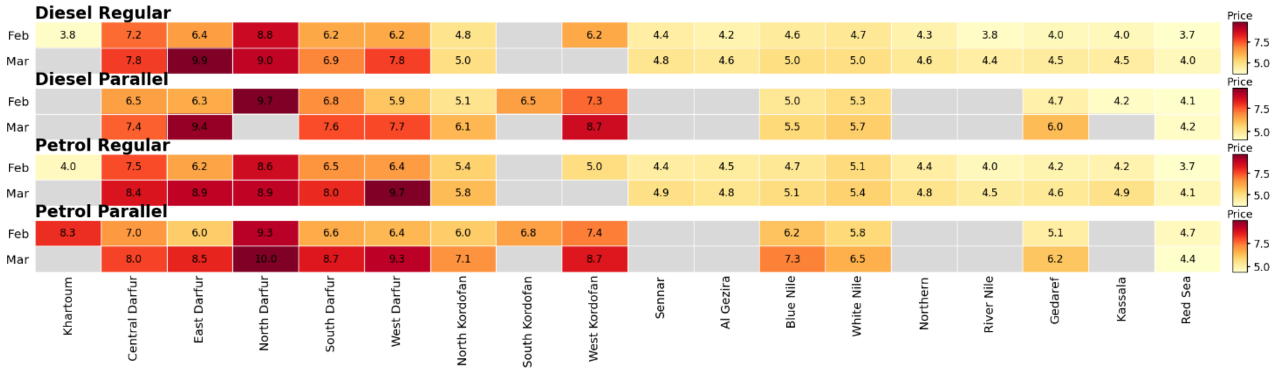


Diesel and Petrol

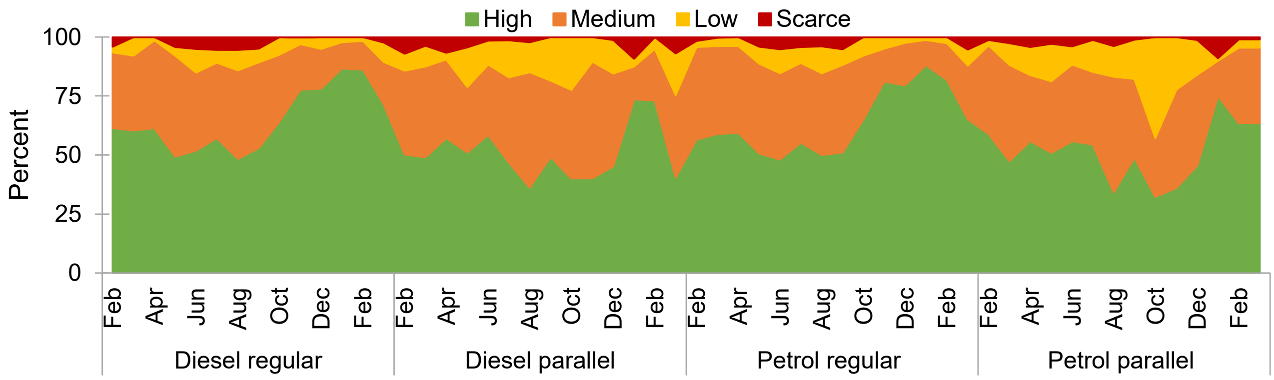
Retail fuel prices (SDG/liter, monthly averages, February 2025– March 2026) in both regular and parallel markets have been increasing since February. Overall, diesel and petrol prices are consistently higher in the parallel market compared to corresponding prices in the regular market.



Retail fuel prices heatmap across states (1,000 SDG/liter), February 2025– March 2026), shows prices remained substantially higher in the Darfur states, particularly North Darfur, West Darfur, and West Kordofan, compared with other regions.

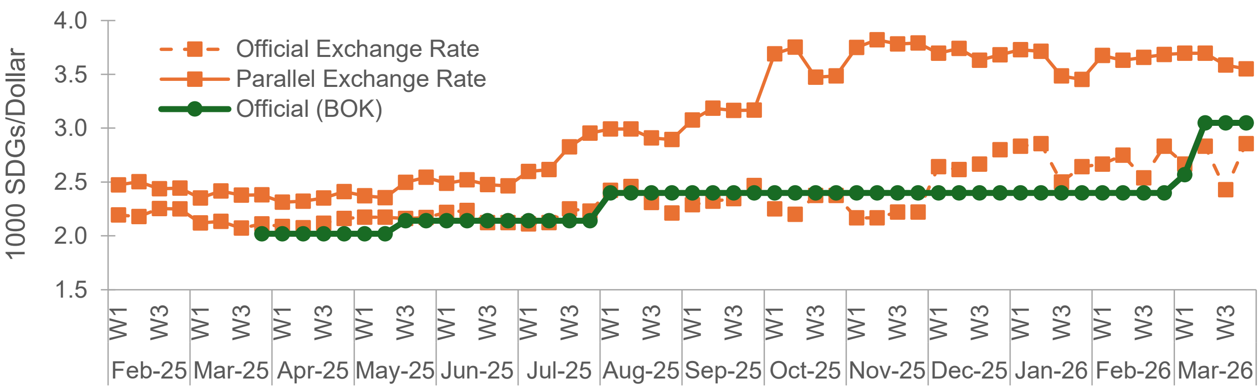


Perceived high fuel availability scores (February 2025–March 2026) in the regular and parallel markets decreased during March. It decreased for petrol and diesel in the regular market and for diesel in parallel market, while remaining stable for petrol in the parallel market in March 2026.



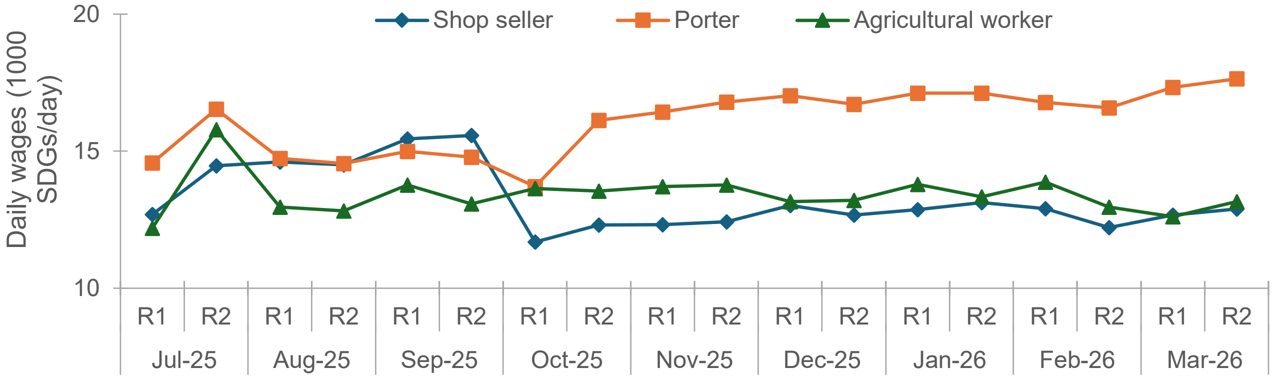
Exchange Rates

Exchange rate (SDG per US dollar), February 2025– March 2026, in the parallel market slightly decreased in March. The official exchange rate, however, fluctuated significantly. The persistent wide gap between the parallel and official rates continues during March.

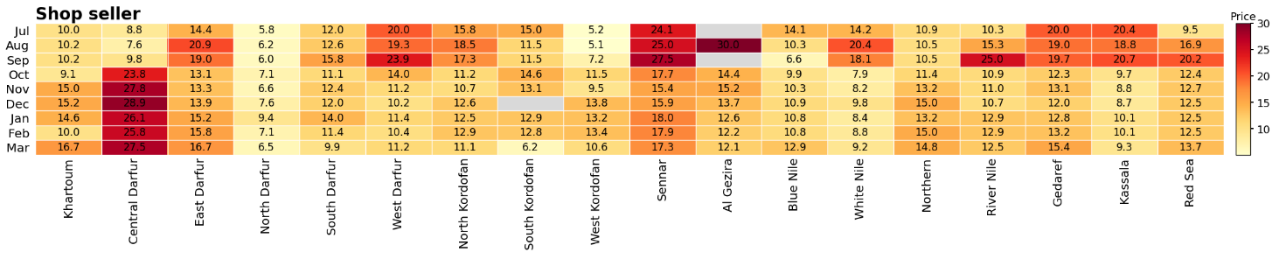


Labor wages

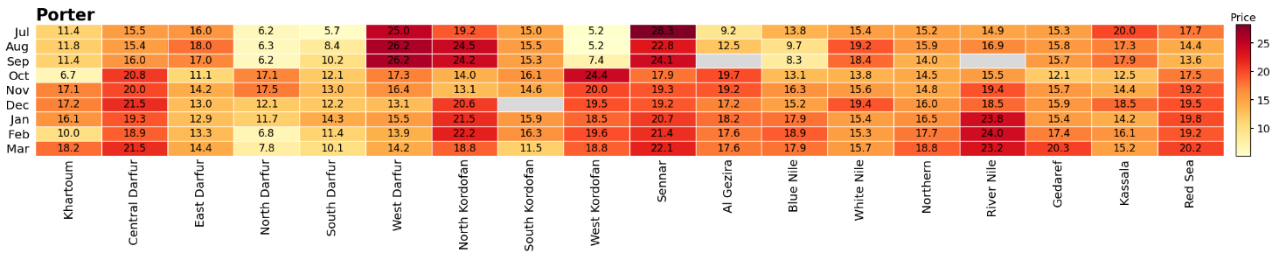
Labor daily wages (biweekly averages, SDG/day, July 2025–March 2026), remained the highest and slightly increased for porter in March. Wages for agricultural workers and shop sellers remained stable.



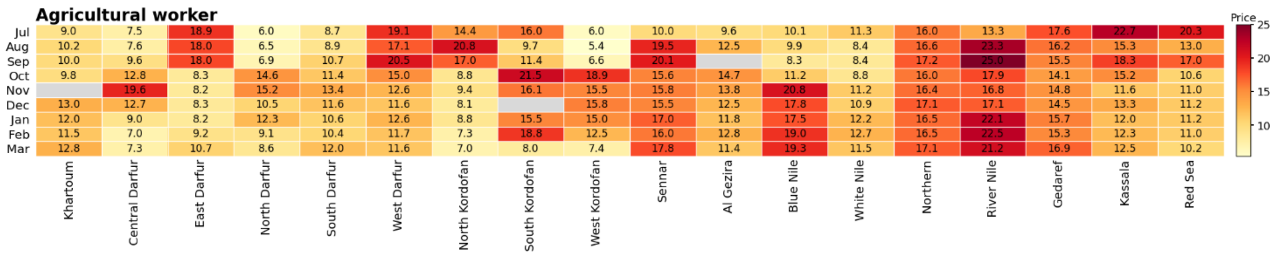
Shop seller daily wages heatmap across states (1,000 SDG/day), July 2025– March 2026, shows that wages remained largely stable between January and March and relatively higher in Central Darfur than other states.



Porter daily wages heatmap across states (1,000 SDG/day), July 2025– March 2026, shows that wages remained largely stable between February and March with River Nile State recording higher wages in February and March 2026 than other states.



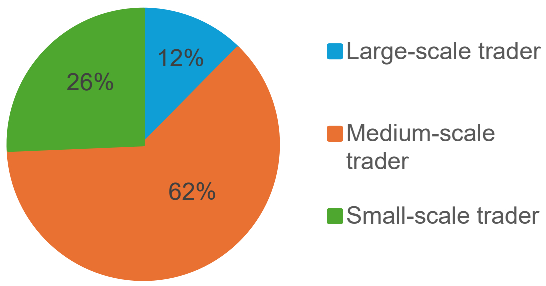
Agricultural worker daily wages heatmap across states (1,000 SDG/day), July 2025–March 2026, shows that wages remained broadly stable between February and March and higher in River Nile State than other states.



Market Actors' Perceptions

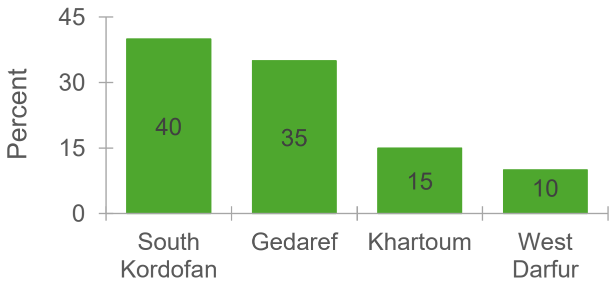
Size of merchants in the market

The figure below shows the distribution of merchants by trading scale (N=113) where Medium-scale traders constitute the majority (62 percent). Large-scale traders are mainly concentrated in South Kordofan state, whereas medium-scale traders are primarily concentrated in Red Sea, Northern, and North Kordofan states. Small-scale traders are more prevalent in Blue Nile, Gedaref, and White Nile states.



Supply Chain and Logistical Challenges Facing Merchants

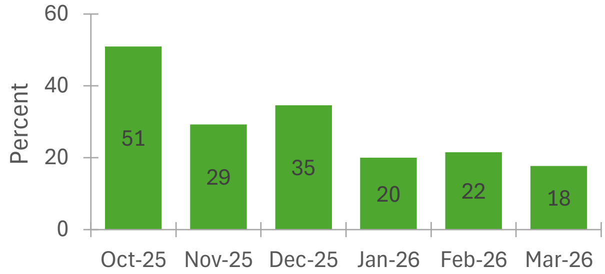
In March 2026, 18 percent of merchants reported facing supply chain and logistical challenges, marking a 10 percentage points increase compared to February 2026. The following figure (N=20) indicates that the highest proportions were observed in South Kordofan (40 percent), and Gedaref (35 percent).



Changes in Demand Conditions

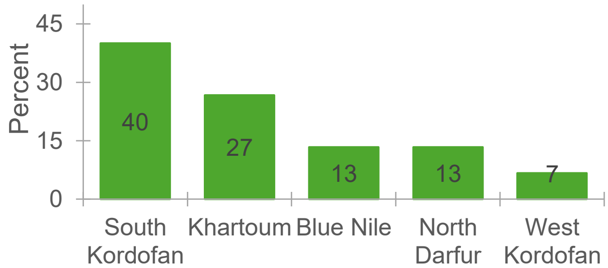
The following figure illustrates changes in demand conditions (N=20) from October 2025 to March 2026. Changes in demand conditions peaked in October 2025 (51 percent) before declining to 22 percent and 18 percent in February and March 2026, respectively, reflecting increased stability in demand over time.

Across states, the largest changes in demand were reported in South Kordofan, and to a smaller extent in Gedaref and Blue Nile states, while Northern State recorded the highest share of merchants reporting no change, suggesting relatively stable demand conditions in March 2026.



Financial and Liquidity Constraints

In March 2026, only 13 percent of merchants report facing financial and liquidity challenges, a significant decline in constraints, compared to the previous months. The following figure illustrates that merchants in South Kordofan state comprise the highest proportion of merchants reporting financial and liquidity constraints, followed by merchants in Khartoum. Contrastly, merchants in the Northern state comprise the highest share of merchants reporting minimal or no financial constraints.

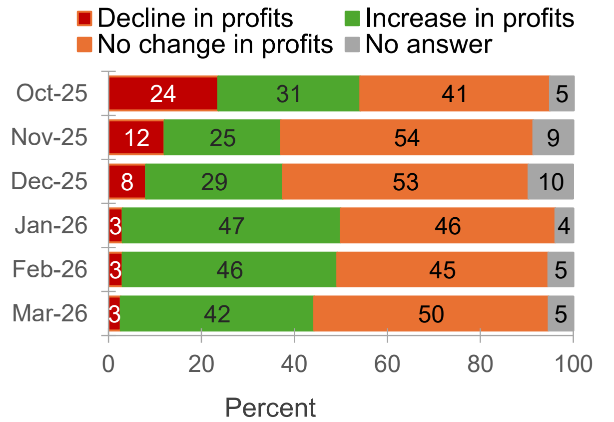


Storage and Power Access

The proportion of merchants reporting no storage constraints increased significantly from 95 to 99 percent between February and March 2026. This pattern indicates negligible storage constraints reported by traders across all states.

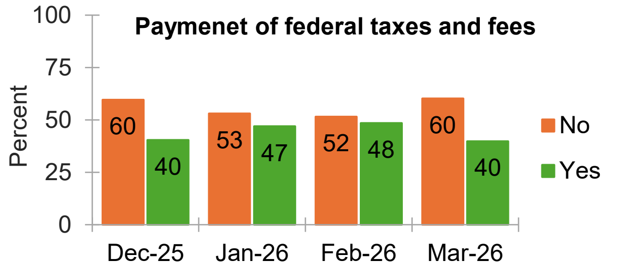
Profits and Profitability Trends

The following figure, depicting the percentage of merchants reporting changes in profits (October 2025–March 2026), shows that the share of The highest shares of merchants reporting profit increases are in South Kordofan, West Kordofan, West Darfur and White Nile states, while Northern and Blue Nile states report the highest shares of merchants reporting stable profit margins. Declines in profit margins were limited, however concentrated only in Red Sea, Gedaref, and North Darfur states.



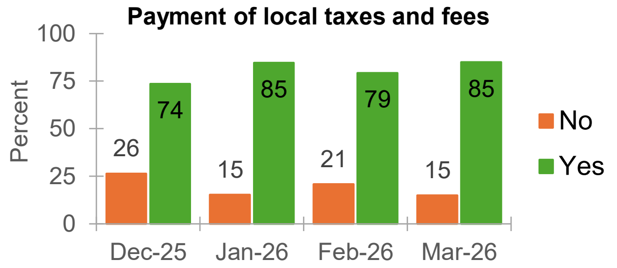
Taxes and Fees

The following figure, depicting the percentage of merchants reporting payments of federal taxes and government fees (December 2025–March 2026), show that the share declined from 48 percent in February 2026 to 40 percent in March 2026. Most merchants reporting federal tax payments were located in Northern and North Kordofan states.



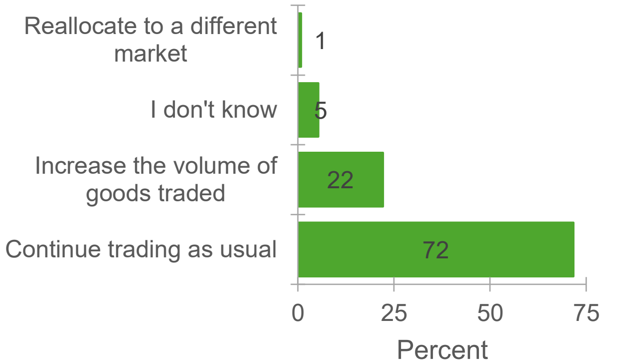
merchants reporting increased profit margins decreased by 4 percentage points (46 to 42 percent) between February and March 2026.

The share of merchants paying state and locality-level fees, shown in the following figure, increased from 79 percent in February 2026 to 85 percent in March 2026, with most payments reported in Northern, Blue Nile, Gedaref, North Kordofan, West Darfur, and Red Sea states.



Traders' Future Outlook

The following figure, depicting traders' outlook for the next 1–3 months (from March 2026), shows that 72 percent of surveyed merchants plan to continue trading as usual (marking an increase from only 58 percent in February 2026). Merchants in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states account for the highest share intending to increase trade volumes.



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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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