



FPMA BULLETIN

Food Price Monitoring and Analysis

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MONTHLY REPORT ON FOOD PRICE TRENDS

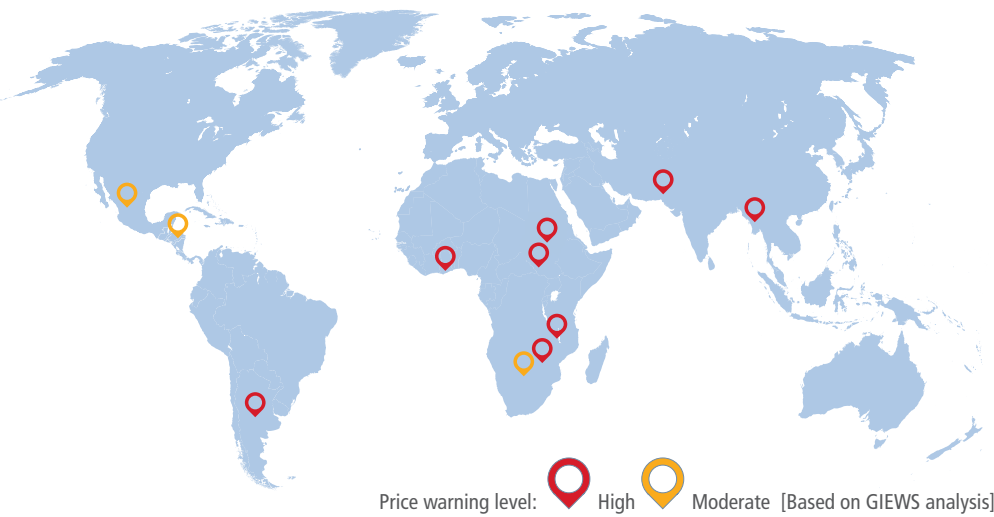
KEY MESSAGES

- International prices of wheat and maize declined in April 2023 while rice prices increased. Ample supplies, strong export competition and generally favourable crop conditions in the European Union weighed on wheat prices, while ongoing harvests in South America underpinned the decline in maize prices. Rice export quotations reversed most of the declines that were registered in March 2023.
- Domestic staple food prices were generally sustained at higher year-on-year levels in April 2023, in most of the countries monitored by FAO, attaining record highs in some cases. Conflict and insecurity, adverse weather and currency weaknesses remain key drivers. However, on a month-on-month basis, seasonal harvest pressures eased some staple food prices in parts of South America, Southern Africa, East Africa and East Asia, while high levels of wheat stocks continue to support softening wheat and wheat flour prices in CIS (Asia and Europe).

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Domestic price warnings



Source: GIEWS, modified to comply with UN map, 2023.

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

- Argentina** | Wheat flour
- Botswana** | Maize meal
- Ghana** | Coarse grains
- Malawi** | Maize
- Mexico** | Maize
- Myanmar** | Rice
- Nicaragua** | Red beans
- Pakistan** | Wheat flour
- South Sudan** | Staple foods
- Sudan** | Staple foods
- Zimbabwe** | Food items

INTERNATIONAL CEREAL PRICES

International grain prices declined in April, while sales to Asian buyers buoyed international rice prices

International **wheat** export prices continued to ease in April. Ample exportable supplies in the Russian Federation, Australia and Kazakhstan underpinned declines in the quotations for Russian Federation (milling, offer, f.o.b., deep-sea ports), Australia (eastern states) and Kazakhstan (milling, d.a.p. Saryagash station) by 3.3, 2.9 and 4.2 percent, respectively, month-on-month. The European Union (France, grade 1) values also fell, by 4 percent, reflecting strong export competition and generally favourable crop conditions in the European Union. By contrast, the benchmark United States of America (US No. 2, Hard Red Winter) prices firmed in April by 2.1 percent, as growing conditions for crops in the key Hard Red Winter wheat producing areas remained dry.

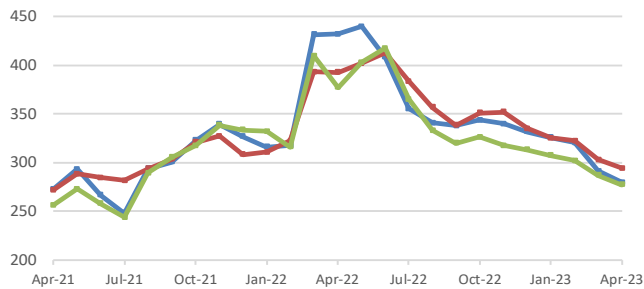
International **maize** export prices also declined in April. Higher seasonal availability from ongoing maize harvests in Brazil, where output is expected to be record high, and Argentina, drove Brazil (Paranagua, feed) and Argentina (Up River, f.o.b.) quotations lower by 4 and 5.4 percent,

respectively, from the previous month. Continued currency depreciation in Argentina also contributed to the decline of prices. However, the benchmark United States of America (US No. 2, Yellow) maize price rose by 2.2 percent, supported by strong demand from China (mainland).

The FAO All Rice Price Index averaged 124.2 points in April 2023, up 2.5 percent from its March value and 17.8 percent above its year-earlier level. Although off-season harvests were underway in various Asian suppliers in April, purchases by Indonesia, alongside deals with Iraq and Malaysia, lent support to export quotations across much of Asia. News of the Philippines' National Food Authority proposing to re-embark on state imports added to the firmness earlier in the month, even though this plan was successively scrapped. In the Americas, quotations of the United States of America rice (US No. 2, 4% Long Grain) eased somewhat, weighed by a dearth in fresh sales and prospects of 2023 plantings in the United States of America staging a more-than-full annual recovery.

International wheat prices

United States dollar per tonne



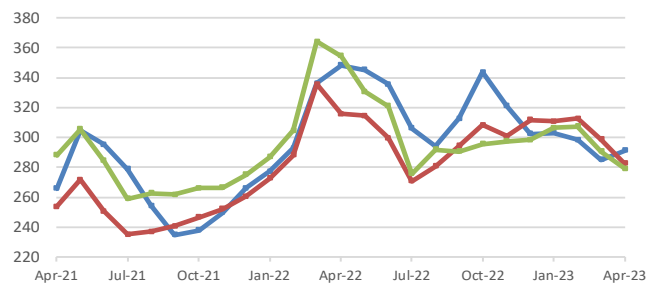
Latest Price
Apr-23

Percent Change
1M 3M 1Y

European Union (France), Wheat (grade 1)	279.65	-4.0	-14.2	-35.3
Australia (eastern states), Wheat (ASW)	294.30	-2.9	-9.5	-25.1
Russian Federation, Wheat (milling, offer, f.o.b., deep-sea ports)	277.50	-3.3	-9.7	-26.5

International maize prices

United States dollar per tonne



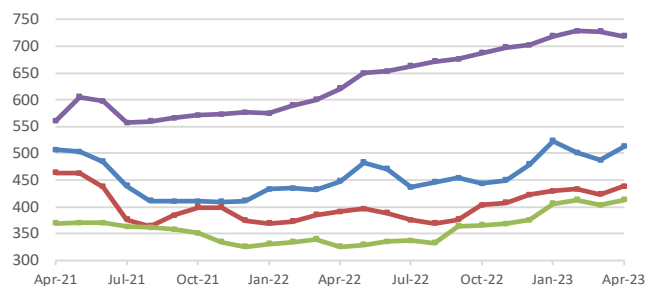
Latest Price
Apr-23

Percent Change
1M 3M 1Y

United States of America (Gulf), Maize (US No. 2, Yellow)	291.18	2.2	-3.9	-16.4
Argentina, Maize (Argentina, Up River, f.o.b.)	282.65	-5.4	-9.1	-10.5
Brazil (Paranagua), Maize (feed)	278.95	-4.0	-9.0	-21.3

International rice prices

United States dollar per tonne



Latest Price
Apr-23

Percent Change
1M 3M 1Y


Thailand (Bangkok), Rice (Parboiled 100%)	512.33	5.2	-2.0	14.4
Viet Nam, Rice (25% broken)	438.00	3.4	2.0	12.0
India, Rice (25% broken)	413.00	2.4	1.7	26.7
United States of America, Rice (US No. 2, 4% Long Grain)	718.75	-1.1	0.0	15.7

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 | Wheat flour

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 03-23	Same period average
3 months	-0.5	-0.2
12 months	 1.3	0.0



Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Argentina, Greater Buenos Aires, Retail, Wheat (flour).

Prices of wheat flour rose further and were more than double their values a year earlier

Retail prices of **wheat flour** continued to rise in March for the eighth month in succession, and set new record highs, reflecting higher year-on-year prices of wheat grain, compounded by elevated milling and transport costs. This resulted in a 10 percent monthly increase in the retail prices of bread. In general, prices of food items continued to rise, amid difficult macroeconomic conditions and by 9 percent month-on-month in March 2023, with the annual food inflation rate registering 107 percent at the national level. To contain the price increases, the *Precios Justos* Programme, relaunched in November 2022, was extended through June 2023, fixing the prices of 1 500 basic commodities in supermarkets, including staple food items. In February, the programme was revised to allow for a 3.2 percent month-on-month increase in prices.

Botswana | Maize meal

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 03-23	Same period average
3 months	 1.3	0.0
12 months	 2.0	-0.1


Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Botswana, National Average, Retail, Maize meal.

Maize meal price increases slowed, but still hit new all-time highs

Prices of **maize meal** continued to rise in March 2023, but at a more moderate pace compared to preceding months, as the declining prices in South Africa, the main source of cereals, began to filter into the domestic market. Although domestic **cereal** production only accounts for a small proportion of total national supplies, the upcoming harvest period could help alleviate price pressure in the next months.

Ghana | Coarse grains

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 04-23	Same period average
3 months	 5.7	2.7
12 months	-1.2	0.4

Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Ghana, Accra, Wholesale, Maize.


Prices of coarse grains followed mixed trends and remained at extremely high levels in April

Prices of **sorghum** remained stable or decreased, while prices of **maize** and **millet** generally increased in April. Prices of millet were up to 131 percent above their year-earlier levels and prices of maize and sorghum were up to 162 percent higher year-on-year. The annual food inflation rate decreased for the second consecutive month in March but still remained at a very high level, hitting 51 percent. High food prices are mostly underpinned by the depreciation of the Ghanaian cedi, which was equivalent to GHS 11.46/USD 1 in April 2023 compared to GHS 7.11/USD 1 in April 2022. Furthermore, high international commodity prices and transport costs have added upward pressure on domestic food prices.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

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

Malawi | Maize


Growth Rate (%)		
	to 04-23	Same period average
3 months	-6.3	-3.1
12 months	 5.5	0.1

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

Maize prices drop, amid the harvest season

The nominal national average price of **maize grain** dropped sharply in April, as newly harvested 2023 crops eased supply pressure; the 2023 domestic maize output is expected to be unchanged year-on-year and at an average level. Compared to year-earlier levels, prices of maize grain, however, remained significantly higher, reflecting the effects of a weaker year-on-year national currency that exacerbated the spill over effects of high global commodity prices. Prices of maize meal are the highest in southern districts, which were hit by cyclone Freddy in March, resulting in widespread crop damage and losses.

Mexico | Maize


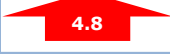
Growth Rate (%)		
	to 04-23	Same period average
3 months	-0.9	2.8
12 months	 2.6	0.8

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Mexico, Puebla, Wholesale, Maize (white, Sinaloa).

Prices of white maize declined seasonally in Puebla but remained at high levels

In Puebla State, wholesale prices of **white maize** decreased by 5 percent month-on-month with improved market supplies from the ongoing 2023 minor season harvest. However, prices were 45 percent above their values a year earlier, following sharp increases throughout 2022, driven by the dryness-induced production decline in Puebla State. Elsewhere in the country, prices showed mixed trends and were above their year-earlier levels, on account of the below-average 2022 harvest at national level. The 2023 minor maize output is expected to increase year-on-year, reflecting a rebound in plantings.

Myanmar | Rice

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 04-23	Same period average
3 months	 8.3	3.5
12 months	 4.8	-0.1

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Myanmar, Yangon, Wholesale, Rice (Emata, Manawthukha-FQ).


Domestic prices increased in April and were at new record highs

Domestic prices of "Emata" **rice**, a widely consumed variety, registered a 15th consecutive month increase in April, reaching record levels, supported by seasonal upward pressure exacerbated by below-average harvests in 2021 and 2022, and elevated agricultural inputs and transport costs. Further support is linked to the upsurge in violence in 2023 that caused disruptions to market activities, while rising uncertainties over the 2023 main rice crop to be planted between May and July, associated with population displacement. Overall, April prices were 100 percent higher year-on-year.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

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

Nicaragua | Red beans

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 04-23	Same period average
3 months	-4.4	-0.6
12 months	 3.3	0.1



Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Nicaragua, Managua (oriental), Wholesale, Beans (red).

Prices of red beans increased in April and remained well above their year-earlier levels

Wholesale prices of **red beans** rose in April after having declined in the past two months with the main "Apante" season harvest. Despite the higher year-on-year bean production in 2022, officially estimated to have increased by 2 percent, prices in April were 63 percent above their year-earlier levels. The high level of prices is underpinned by elevated production and transport costs, as well as strong export demand, with the quantity of beans exported in 2022 more than 10 percent higher year-on-year. During the first two months of 2023, exports of beans were also well above their January–February levels a year earlier. This contributed to the high prices of beans in El Salvador and Honduras, Nicaragua's major importers of beans, where prices were about 40 percent higher year-on-year.

Pakistan | Wheat flour

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 04-23	Same period average
3 months	 17.2	-0.8
12 months	 4.3	-0.2


Compound growth rate in real terms.

Refers to: Pakistan, Lahore, Retail, Wheat (flour).

Prices of wheat flour surged in April and were at new record highs

Prices of **wheat flour**, a key staple food, continued to increase in April and reached record levels, ranging from 100 to 160 percent higher year-on-year. The high prices are attributed to strong demand during Ramadan, amid tight supply of private stocks following the June–August 2022 flood-related stock losses. Elevated agricultural input and transport costs, and inflationary pressure added to the upward pressure on prices. In addition, earlier expectations of a bumper 2023 harvest will likely not materialize due to unfavourable weather conditions during the growing season and the country may need to significantly increase imports to cover the domestic needs.

South Sudan | Staple foods

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 04-23	Same period average
3 months	-3.5	-1.3
12 months	 5.8	0.5

Compound growth rate in real terms.

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

Prices of maize and sorghum declining in April but still at exceptionally high levels, mainly due to insufficient supplies and severe macroeconomic difficulties

In the capital, Juba, prices of **maize** and **sorghum** declined by about 5 percent in April, as the availability of newly harvested 2022 season crops offset the upward pressure from a further depreciation of the national currency. Prices of **cassava**, **groundnuts** and imported **wheat**, other important staples in the local diet, also declined in April by 2 to 7 percent. Nominal food prices in April remained at exceptionally high levels, with those of maize and sorghum around twice their already high year-earlier values and more than 100 times those in July 2015, before the currency collapse. Underlying the high food prices are insufficient supplies and the continuously difficult macroeconomic situation due to low foreign currency reserves and the weak national currency.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

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

Sudan | Staple foods



Growth Rate (%)		
	to 03-23	Same period average
3 months	 15.0	3.6
12 months	-2.6	-0.3

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Sudan, El Gedarif, Wholesale, Millet.

Prices of food surging past their already high levels due to the ongoing conflict

While no official price data for April is available, anecdotal information from various sources indicates that food prices have skyrocketed due to trade and market disruptions caused by the conflict that started on 13 April 2023, especially in urban areas, where the conflict is more intense. These surges occurred against a backdrop of the already high costs of food, as prices of domestically produced **sorghum** and **millet**, the main cereal staples, were, in March, up to 60 percent above their already elevated values of a year earlier despite the favourable outcome of the 2022 cropping season. **Cereal** prices began to follow a sustained increasing trend from late 2017 due to the difficult macroeconomic situation, coupled with high prices of fuel and agricultural inputs inflating production and transport costs. Heightened political instability and intercommunal clashes exerted further upward pressure on prices.

Zimbabwe | Food items

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 02-23	Same period average
3 months	 18.0	7.0
12 months	 11.1	0.9

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Zimbabwe, Mutare, Sakubva, Retail, Maize (white).

Currency weakness underpins inflation rates

The annual **food inflation** rate was estimated at 102 percent in April, down from 128 percent in the previous month. However, the monthly rate increased moderately, as the value of the Zimbabwe dollar slipped further in March and April. At the commodity level, **maize grain** prices were more than six times higher on a yearly basis in March 2023.

Price warning level:  High  Moderate

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

Prices of coarse grains showed mixed trends in April and remained higher year-on-year in several countries

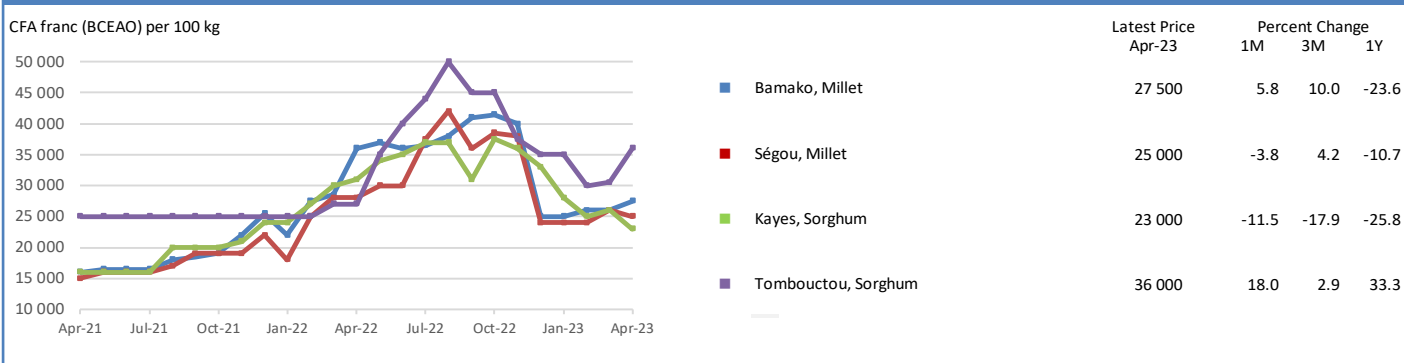
Prices of coarse grains showed mixed trends in April. Seasonal depletion of household stocks and strong demand during the month of Ramadan were the key factors driving price increases in some countries. Prices of coarse grains remained significantly higher on a yearly basis in several countries of the Sahel and along the Gulf of Guinea.

In **Mali**, wholesale prices of millet and sorghum followed mixed trends in April and were generally below their elevated year-earlier levels, underpinned by the strong year-on-year increase in the 2022 cereal outputs. However, prices of sorghum were 33 percent higher compared to the previous year in conflict-affected Gao and Tombouctou. In **Burkina Faso**, wholesale prices of sorghum and millet decreased in many markets in April and were generally below their elevated year-earlier values, reflecting the higher year-on-year cereal outputs as well as the impact of the cereal export ban. However, the price of millet was 20 percent above its elevated year-earlier level in the market of Bobo Dioulasso, supported by sustained demand from cereal deficit areas. In the market of Kongoussi, the price of millet was 17 percent above its elevated year-earlier value, mostly underpinned by conflict-related market disruptions and strong local demand. In **the Niger**, wholesale prices of sorghum remained stable or decreased, while wholesale prices of millet remained stable or increased in April, supported by an uptick in demand during the month of Ramadan and a slowdown in cross-border trade flows. In general, prices of coarse grains were well below their elevated year-earlier levels, reflecting the sharp production upturn in 2022. In **Chad**, retail prices of sorghum, millet and maize were stable or increased in March and were generally 15 to 32 percent higher on a yearly basis, mostly reflecting low supply due to high transport costs and strong local demand. In Abéché market, higher cereal prices were supported by robust export demand resulting

in increased informal cereal trade flows from the country's east region into the Sudan. In **Senegal**, national average prices of maize and millet remained stable, while the average price of sorghum increased in March. Despite the year-on-year increase in the 2022 cereal output, average prices of maize, sorghum and millet were 32, 38 and 53 percent, respectively, above their year-earlier levels, mostly underpinned by elevated production and transport costs as well as currency weakness.

In **Ghana**, prices of sorghum remained stable or decreased, while prices of maize and millet generally increased in April. Prices of millet were up to 131 percent higher year-on-year and prices of maize and sorghum were up to 162 percent above their year-earlier values. The high prices of coarse grains are mostly supported by persistent inflationary pressures from the depreciation of the Ghanaian cedi and elevated international commodity prices and transport costs. In **Togo**, retail prices of maize were stable or increased and prices of sorghum increased in April. Prices of maize were below their elevated year-earlier levels. However, retail prices of sorghum were 5 to 27 percent higher on a yearly basis, mostly supported by low supply due to high fuel costs. In **Benin**, retail prices of maize were stable or increased in March, while prices of sorghum decreased. Prices of coarse grains were near or below their year-earlier values. In **Nigeria**, prices of maize, sorghum and millet remained stable or increased in March and were 3 to 13 percent above their year-earlier values in some markets. Prices of local and imported rice were also stable or increased and were generally 26 to 47 percent higher year-on-year. The elevated cereal prices are supported by high global commodity prices and transport costs, conflict-related market disruptions and macroeconomic difficulties, including the currency crisis and the weakness of the naira. The annual food inflation rate reached a record level of 24.5 percent in March.

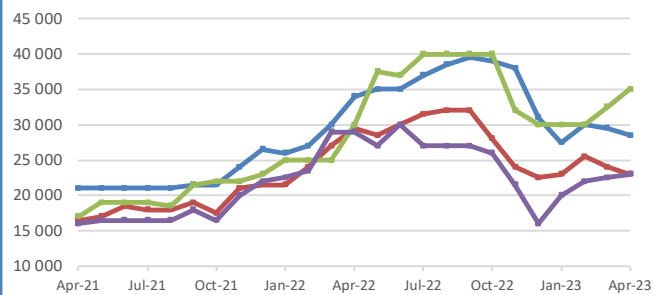
Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in Mali



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

Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in Burkina Faso

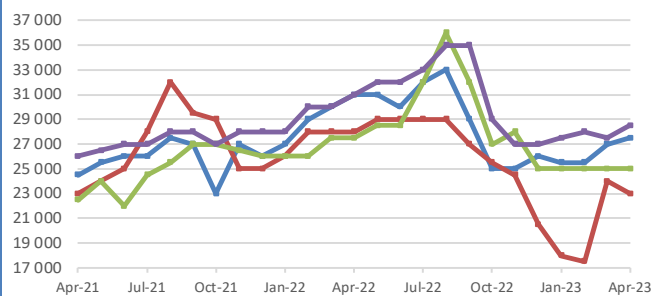
CFA franc (BCEAO) per 100 kg



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
■ Ouagadougou, Millet	28 500	-3.4	3.6	-16.2
■ Ouagadougou, Sorghum	23 000	-4.2	0.0	-22.0
■ Kongoussi, Millet	35 000	7.7	16.7	16.7
■ Tenkodogo, Sorghum	23 000	2.2	15.0	-20.7

Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in the Niger

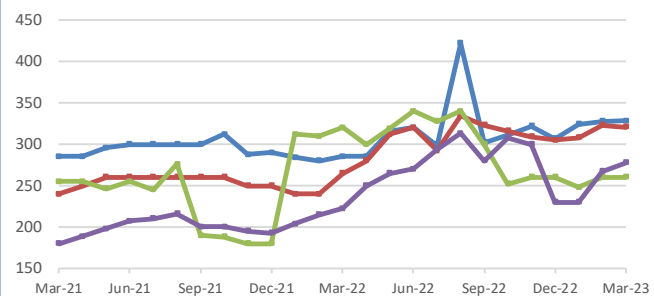
CFA franc (BCEAO) per 100 kg



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
■ Niamey, Millet	27 500	1.9	7.8	-11.3
■ Zinder, Sorghum	23 000	-4.2	27.8	-17.9
■ Tillaberi, Sorghum	25 000	0.0	0.0	-9.1
■ Tillaberi, Millet	28 500	3.6	3.6	-8.1

Retail prices of maize and millet in Chad

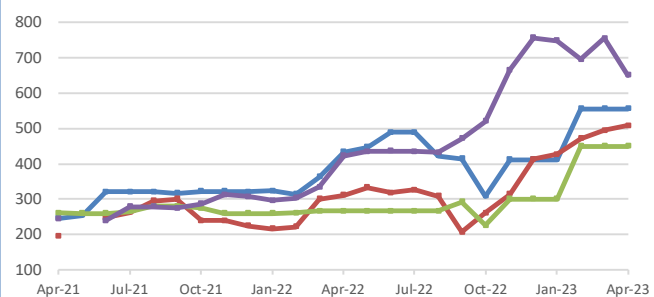
CFA franc (BEAC) per kg



	Latest Price Mar-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
■ N'Djamena, Millet	328.50	0.2	7.0	15.3
■ N'Djamena, Maize	321.00	-0.6	5.2	21.1
■ Boi, Maize	260.00	0.0	0.0	-18.8
■ Abeche, Millet	277.50	3.7	20.7	24.7

Wholesale prices of maize and sorghum in Ghana

Ghanaian cedi per 100 kg

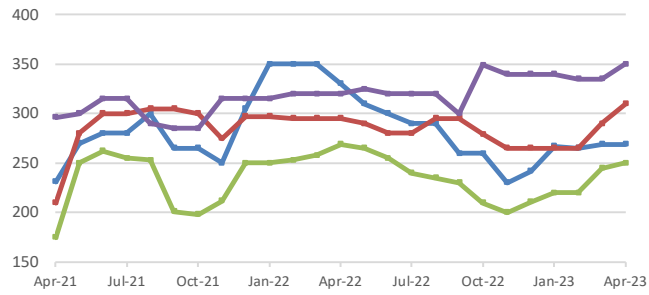


	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
■ Accra, Maize	555.56	0.0	35.1	28.2
■ Techiman, Maize	508.08	2.8	19.1	63.5
■ Accra, Sorghum	450.00	0.0	50.0	68.7
■ Techiman, Sorghum	650.35	-13.9	-13.2	54.2

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

Retail prices of maize and sorghum in Togo

CFA franc (BCEAO) per kg



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Lomé, Maize (white)	269	0.0	0.7	-18.5
Anie, Sorghum	310	6.9	17.0	5.1
Anie, Maize (white)	250	2.0	13.6	-7.1
Lomé, Sorghum	350	4.5	2.9	9.4

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

SOUTHERN AFRICA

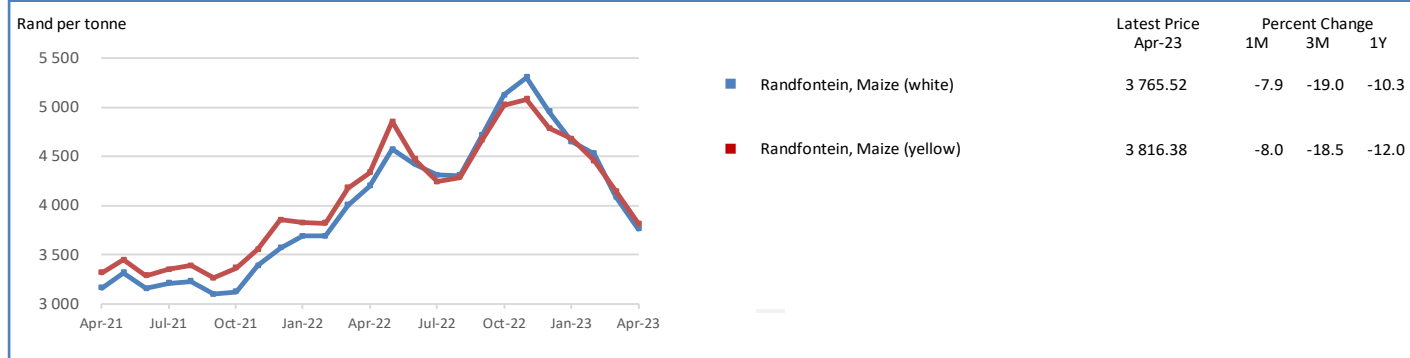
Prior to the harvest period, prices of maize eased in several countries

Maize prices eased in several countries, but remained at exceptionally high levels, with adverse implications for acute food insecurity. With production expectations in 2023 uncertain, reflecting erratic weather conditions late in the season, seasonal price decreases could be limited in 2023.

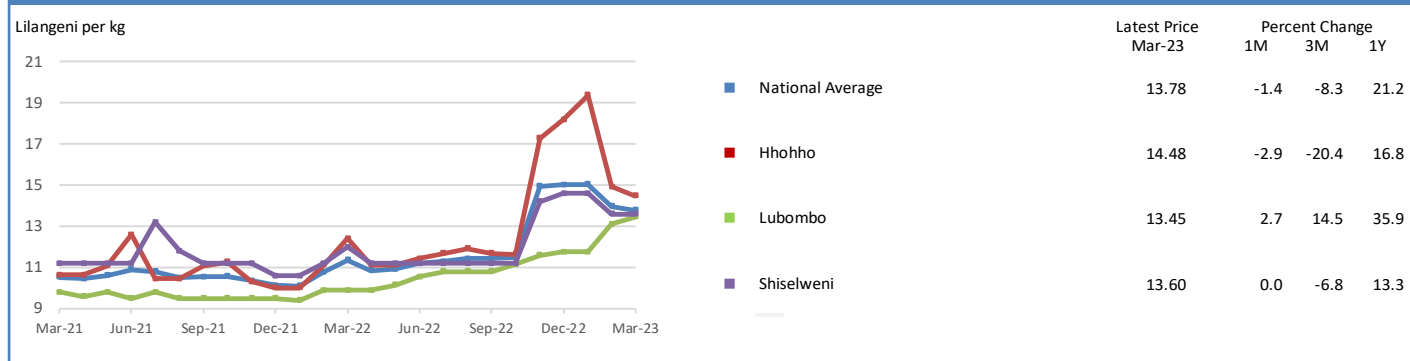
Mirroring trends in the international market, wholesale prices of maize grain in **South Africa** continued to decline in April 2023 and, for the first time since October 2021, both white and yellow maize prices dipped below their year-earlier levels. In addition to the effects of lower international prices, an upward revision to the domestic maize production forecast in April added further downward price pressure; the 2023 maize harvest is expected to be the second largest on record. For wholesale wheat prices, a foreseen cutback in 2023 wheat plantings supported a small upturn in prices in April, but prices were still about 5 percent lower year-on-year. In **Eswatini** and **Namibia**, although remaining at higher year-on-year levels, prices of maize meal mostly softened in February and March 2023. These lower prices reflect the declining prices in South Africa, the main source of cereals for both countries. In **Botswana**, which is similarly reliant on South African grain exports to satisfy its national consumption requirements, the average national prices of maize meal continued to rise, albeit at a slower pace, and were at all-time highs in March 2023. Disinflation continued in

Angola, reflecting a stable national currency and the effects of reduced import taxes, as well as food price subsidies that have helped to limit the pass-through costs to the retail level. In **Zambia**, the nominal national average prices of maize grain and maize meal continued to climb in April, reaching new record highs, underpinned by a weaker national currency that has raised production and distribution costs, in addition to tighter domestic supplies. The upcoming harvest and an appreciation of the national currency in April could help to ease upward pressure on prices, while the government removed import taxes on maize in a bid to bolster domestic availabilities and contain further price increases. In **Zimbabwe**, the annual food inflation rate, measured by the blended consumer price index (incorporating prices of goods denominated in United States dollars), eased further in April 2023, but remained high at 102 percent. The monthly rate, however, increased moderately, as the value of the Zimbabwe dollar slipped further in March and April. In **Malawi**, there was a sharp drop in the price of maize grain in April, as newly harvested 2023 crops eased supply pressure; the 2023 domestic maize output is expected to be virtually unchanged year-on-year and at an average level. Compared to year-earlier levels, prices of maize grain, however, remained significantly higher, reflecting the impact of a weaker national currency that exacerbated the spill over effects of high global commodity prices, including fuel, inflating production and distribution costs.

Wholesale prices of maize in South Africa



Retail prices of maize meal in Eswatini

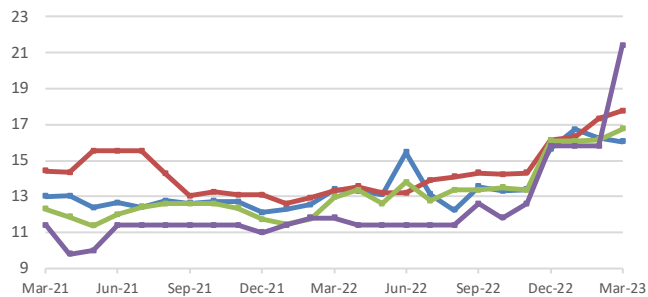


For more information visit the FPMA website [here](#)

SOUTHERN AFRICA cont'd

Retail prices of maize meal in Namibia

Namibia dollar per kg



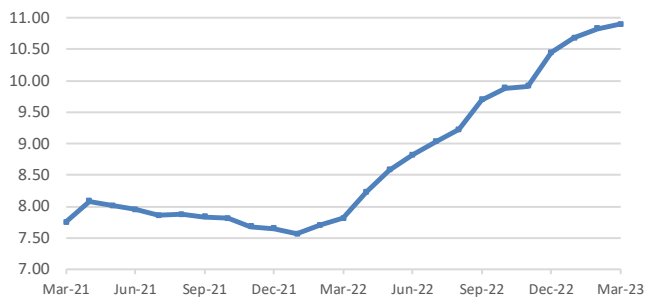
Latest Price
Mar-23

Percent Change
1M 3M 1Y

- Windhoek
- Swakopmund
- Otjiwarongo
- Gobabis

Retail prices of maize meal in Botswana

Pula per kg



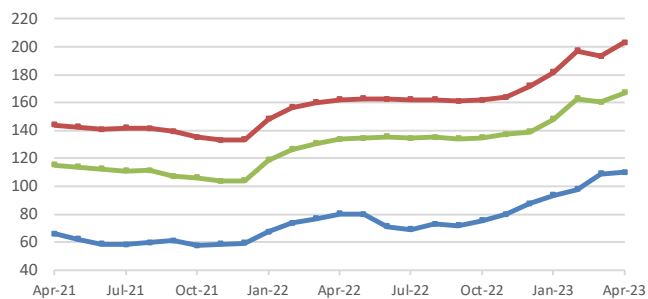
Latest Price
Mar-23

Percent Change
1M 3M 1Y

- National Average

Retail prices of maize in Zambia

Zambian kwacha per 20 kg



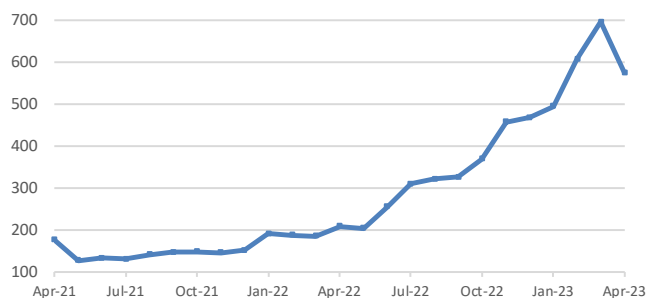
Latest Price
Apr-23

Percent Change
1M 3M 1Y

- National Average, Maize (white)
- National Average, Breakfast maize meal
- National Average, White roller maize meal

Retail prices of maize in Malawi

Malawi kwacha per kg



Latest Price
Apr-23

Percent Change
1M 3M 1Y

- National Average

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

Prices of coarse grains remain at exceptionally high levels in South Sudan and the Sudan

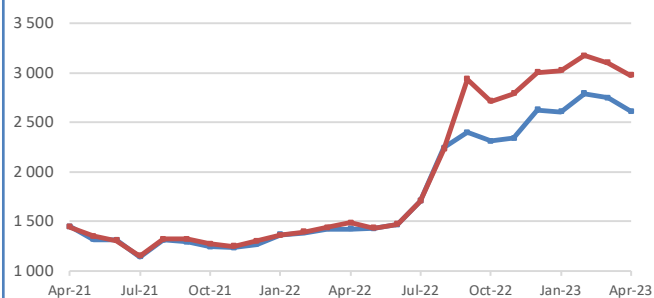
Prices of coarse grains followed mixed trends in April 2023. Overall, exceptionally high levels continued to be recorded in **South Sudan** and **the Sudan**, underpinned by tight supplies and severe macroeconomic difficulties, including currency weakness. In **the Sudan**, prices are reported to have skyrocketed past their already high levels in April due to trade disruptions caused by the conflict that started on 13 April 2023. Across the subregion, the upward pressure on prices is exacerbated by the impact of the war in Ukraine which increased fuel and fertilizer prices, inflating transport and production costs.

In **the Sudan**, the conflict that started on 13 April 2023 has caused severe trade disruptions. While official price data for April are not available, anecdotal information from various sources indicates that food prices, already at very high levels in March due to high production costs, political instability and a weak national currency, have skyrocketed, especially in urban areas, where the conflict is more intense. In **South Sudan**, prices of maize and sorghum declined in April in the capital, Juba, as the availability

of newly harvested 2022 season crops offset the upward pressure of a further depreciation of the national currency. The exceptionally high price levels are due to tight supplies, the lingering impact of prolonged conflict and macroeconomic difficulties. In **Somalia**, prices of maize began to seasonally increase in March, while prices of sorghum followed mixed trends. Prices in March were below the very high levels of a year earlier. In **Kenya**, prices of maize continued to increase in April both in markets located in southwestern key growing areas of Rift Valley Province and in the capital, Nairobi, to levels well above the values of a year earlier. Prices are underpinned by a below-average 2022 production and high prices of agricultural inputs, including fuel, inflating production costs. Further upward pressure is exerted by reduced imports from neighbouring Uganda, where exportable surpluses shrunk in 2022 following a reduced cereal production. In **Burundi**, prices of maize followed mixed trends in April and were well above their year-earlier levels due to a tight supply situation, coupled with insufficient and costly fuel supplies inflating transport costs.

Retail prices of maize and sorghum in South Sudan

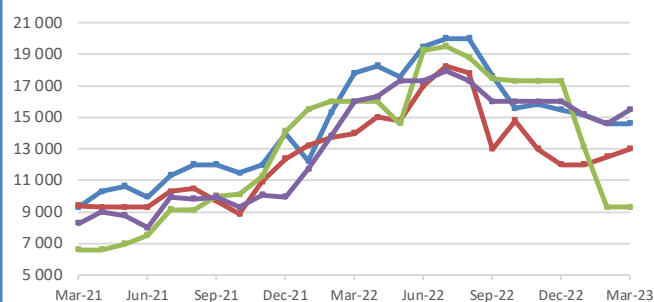
South Sudanese pound per 3.5 kg



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Juba, Maize (white)	2 613.00	-4.9	0.2	83.8
Juba, Sorghum (Feterita)	2 975.00	-4.1	-1.7	100.3

Retail prices of maize and sorghum in Somalia

Somali shilling per kg

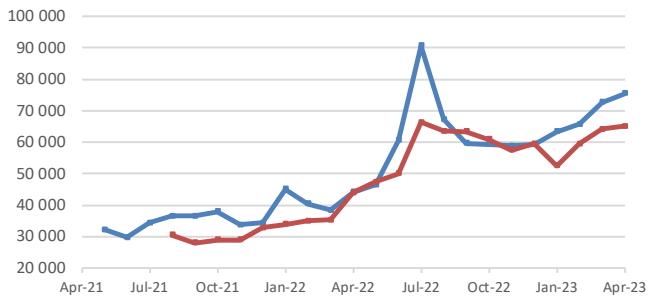


	Latest Price Mar-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Mogadishu, Maize (white)	14 600	0.0	-5.7	-18.0
Marka, Maize (white)	13 000	4.0	8.3	-7.1
Baidoa, Sorghum (red)	9 300	0.0	-46.2	-41.9
Mogadishu, Sorghum (red)	15 475	6.0	-3.3	-3.3

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

Wholesale prices of white maize in Kenya

Kenya shilling per tonne



Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
75 420	3.7	18.9	71.0
65 140	1.6	24.2	48.1

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

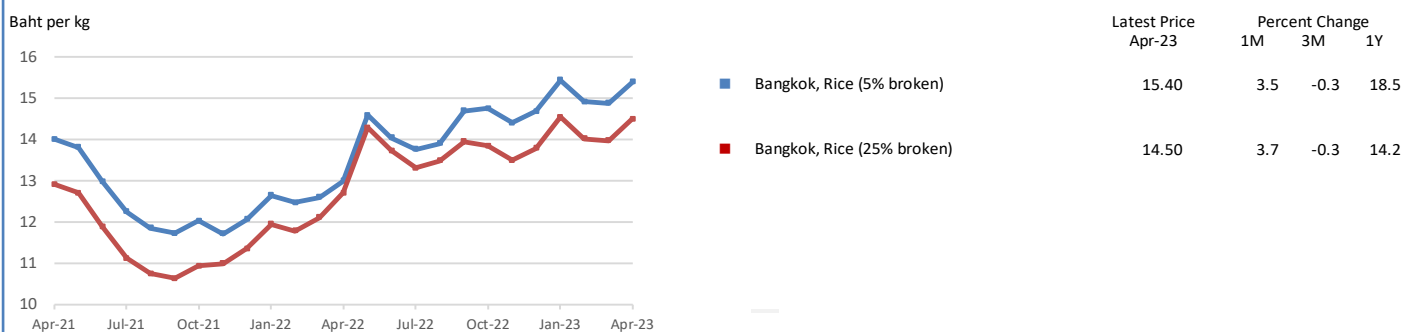
Prices of rice showed mixed trends, while prices of wheat flour decreased in most countries, except Pakistan where prices increased to new record highs

Domestic prices of rice showed mixed trends in April 2023 and were well above their year-earlier level. Price increases mostly concerned the subregion's exporters, with the most pronounced month-on-month gains registered in **Viet Nam** and **Thailand**, mostly attributed to increased export demand from traditional buyers. In Myanmar, prices of "Emata" rice, a widely consumed variety, continued to seasonally increase in April to new record highs and were 100 percent higher year-on-year, supported by below-average harvests in 2021 and 2022, high agricultural input and transport costs, and sustained export demand. The recent upsurge in violence has caused disruptions of market activities, adding further support to prices. In **India**, rice prices were stable or increased in some markets, supported by ongoing government purchases and robust local demand, amid a reduced output forecast in 2022/23, associated with a decline in the area planted. Firm international demand for the non-basmati rice variety also supported prices. According to official estimates, as of 30 April 2023, about 50 million tonnes of paddy have been procured in the current 2022/23 marketing year (October/September), representing nearly 30 percent of the 2022/23 production estimate. Domestic rice prices changed little and were marginally above their year-earlier levels in **China (mainland)** and **Bangladesh**, reflecting adequate market availability. In **Cambodia**, rice prices declined with the commercialization of the newly harvested 2023 crops, estimated at an above-average level. In

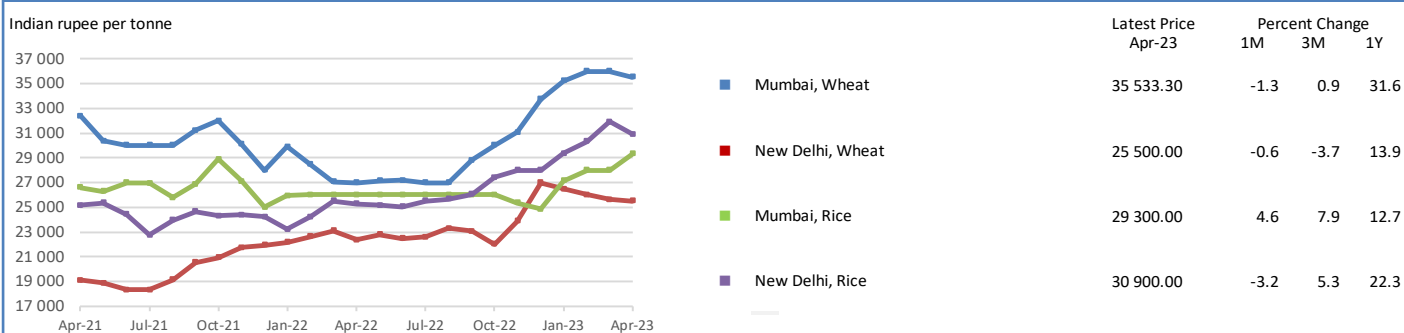
Sri Lanka, rice prices have been on a steady decline since August 2022, mostly reflecting increased market availabilities from 2022/23 harvests and improvements in macroeconomic conditions. Overall, rice prices remain 15 percent above their year-earlier levels.

Wheat flour prices tended to decline owing to the onset of the 2023 main wheat crop harvest in most countries of the subregion. The main exception was **Pakistan**, where prices of domestic wheat flour, the country's main food staple, continued to increase, reaching new record highs in April despite the ongoing 2023 harvest. Price increases are linked to higher demand during the month of Ramadan, amid generally tight availabilities, coupled with high agricultural input and transport costs, and general inflationary pressure. Weather setbacks during the 2023 wheat growing season dampened earlier prospects for a bumper harvest, adding further upward pressure on prices. In **China (mainland)**, domestic wheat prices have generally declined since the beginning of 2023, reflecting adequate market availabilities and expectations of an above-average 2023 wheat harvest, to start in May. In **India**, wheat grain and wheat flour prices were stable or declined, with the onset of the 2023 main harvest, estimated at an above-average level. Similarly, domestic wheat flour prices declined in **Sri Lanka**, reflecting trends in the international markets and in **Bangladesh**, where the commercialization of the 2023 harvest is weighing on prices.

Wholesale prices of rice in Thailand



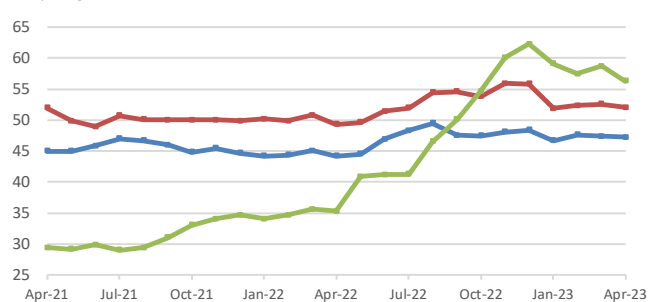
Wholesale prices of rice and wheat in India



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

Retail prices of rice and wheat flour in Bangladesh

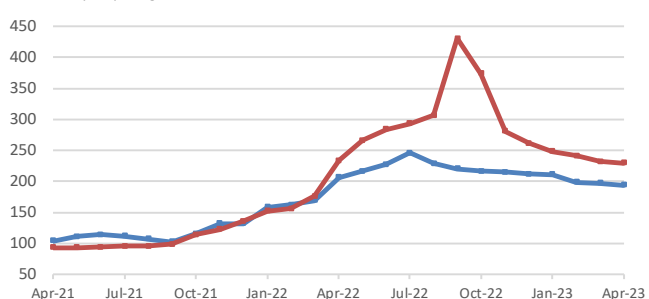
Taka per kg



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Dhaka, Rice (coarse- BR-8/ 11/ Guti/ Sharna)	47.22	-0.4	1.2	6.9
Dhaka, Rice (Medium)	52.08	-0.9	0.4	5.7
Dhaka, Wheat (flour)	56.33	-4.0	-4.7	59.8

Retail prices of rice and wheat flour in Sri Lanka

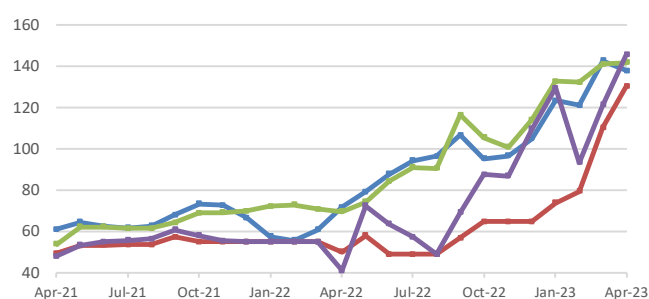
Sri Lanka rupee per kg



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Colombo, Rice (white)	194.07	-1.5	-8.1	-5.9
Colombo, Wheat (flour)	229.88	-0.8	-7.3	-1.5

Retail prices of wheat flour in Pakistan

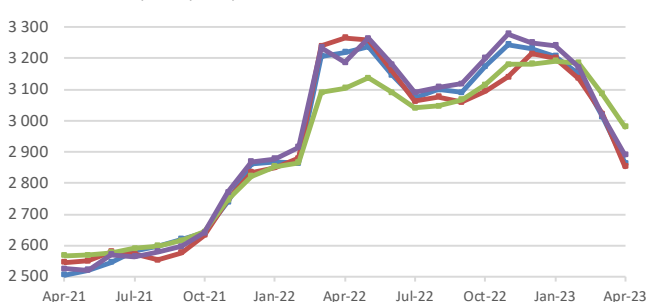
Pakistan rupee per kg



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Karachi	138.00	-3.3	11.8	92.4
Multan	130.37	18.1	76.4	160.1
Quetta	141.75	0.5	6.8	103.2
Peshawar	145.84	20.2	12.6	254.7

Wholesale prices of wheat in China (mainland)

Renminbi (monetary unit: yuan) per tonne



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Zhengzhou	2 863.33	-5.0	-10.7	-11.1
Linyi	2 853.33	-5.6	-10.8	-12.7
National Average	2 980.33	-3.4	-6.6	-4.0
Sijiazhuang	2 890.00	-4.2	-10.8	-9.3

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

Wheat export prices continued to decline in April, while domestic wheat flour prices remain higher year-on-year in importing countries

Wheat export prices continued to decline in the region, supported by a slightly increased global production outlook and the extension of the Black Sea Grain initiative on 18 March 2023. In the **Russian Federation**, export prices of milling wheat followed global trends and were 3 percent below the previous month's levels and 26 percent down year-on-year in April 2023. Similarly, in **Kazakhstan**, export prices of milling wheat continued to decline and were 4 percent lower than the previous month and 28 percent down from April 2022. The record-high production in 2022/2023 tempered the upward pressure on wheat export prices due to the six-month ban on imports of wheat by road imposed in mid-April and the resumption of shipments to China (mainland) by grain carriers.

In domestic markets, in **Ukraine**, wholesale prices of milling wheat were down 3 percent month-on-month in April 2023 and were 15 percent lower than the record high prices of a year earlier, supported by the slightly improved wheat harvest outlook for 2023/24. In the **Russian Federation**, retail prices of wheat flour dropped only marginally, by 1 percent compared to the previous month and were 8 percent below the April 2022 levels, supported by the record-high wheat stocks as a result of the weakening of exports and the ample production in 2022/23. In **Kazakhstan**, while retail wheat flour prices slightly increased by 0.4 percent, the wholesale prices dropped by 2 percent in March 2023 compared to a month earlier. Both retail and wholesale prices were 26 percent up from the already elevated prices in March 2022. Domestic prices could firm in the coming months due to the six-month ban on wheat imports by road, imposed in mid-April, though high stock levels and optimal conditions for the upcoming spring wheat sowing campaign could limit the extent of the increase.

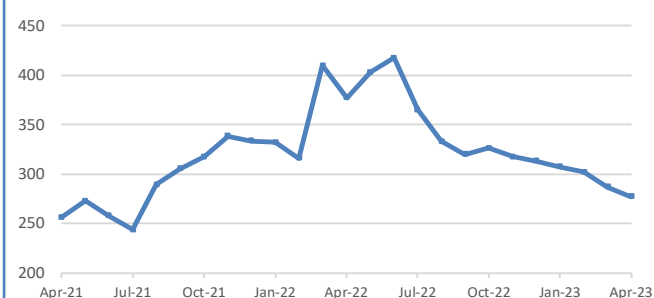
Domestic wheat flour prices among the region's net importers remained higher year-on-year. In April 2023, monthly wheat flour prices continued a moderate decline in **Georgia** and **Kyrgyzstan**, while on an annual basis, prices remained higher in both countries, 3 and 9 percent, respectively. Since 2021, Georgia substantially increased wheat flour imports from the Russian Federation, which were six times higher in 2022 compared to 2021. This increase was underpinned by the export duty imposed by the Russian Federation on exports of wheat grain in June 2021, which pushed Georgian importers to purchase wheat flour to the detriment of the local milling industry and contributed to higher domestic wheat flour prices. Kyrgyzstan's year-on-year higher wheat flour prices are mainly driven by prices in Kazakhstan, the main source of wheat flour to the country. Moreover, total imports of wheat flour in 2022 were 45 percent less compared to the year earlier, at the same time the imports of wheat grain improved by 18 percent year-on-year. In **Azerbaijan**, national average

wheat flour prices were marginally down in March 2023 compared to a month earlier but remained 16 percent up on an annual basis, owing to sustained increases since March 2022, market uncertainty, higher agricultural inputs and transport costs. In **Armenia**, wheat flour prices, in March 2023, were 3 percent below the previous month's levels and close to year-earlier levels, supported by a 23 percent year-on-year increase in wheat and wheat flour imports from the Russian Federation in 2022. In **Belarus**, prices were up 3 percent in March 2023 compared to the previous month and up 21 percent from the already elevated March 2022 prices. Amid increasing prices, on 11 March 2022 the government introduced an export ban on grains, including wheat, which was extended for six months as of 24 March 2023 to ensure the domestic supply of the main staples amidst uncertainty in global food markets. In the **Republic of Moldova** and **Tajikistan**, wheat flour prices decreased moderately in March and were up slightly from year-earlier levels, 2 and 3 percent, respectively. The modest year-on-year price increase in the Republic of Moldova, despite the drought-induced 44 percent drop in wheat harvest in 2022, is supported by an almost two fold year-on-year increase in wheat and wheat flour imports from Ukraine in 2022. Similarly, in Tajikistan, the modest year-on-year increase in wheat flour prices is supported by higher 2022 imports at progressively lower prices from Kazakhstan, the main supplier of wheat to the country and a slight year-on-year increase in the 2022/23 wheat production. In **Uzbekistan**, wheat flour prices fell by 2 percent in March, while the annual growth, at 55 percent, remained the highest in the region, despite the government's attempts, in December 2021, to stabilize prices by lifting import duties on wheat flour, among other measures.

Monthly retail prices of potatoes mostly declined or remained unchanged in March and April 2023, ahead of the planting season, and exhibited mixed trends on an annual basis. In **Georgia**, retail prices of potatoes were 32 percent above the previous year's levels as a result of supply shortages due to reduced production during the harvest in September 2022, while in **Kyrgyzstan** and the **Russian Federation**, annual prices were down by 14 and 42 percent, respectively, in April 2023. In **Armenia**, **Belarus** and **Kazakhstan**, prices dropped by 2, 25 and 13 percent, respectively, in March 2023 compared to a year earlier. While in the **Republic of Moldova** and **Uzbekistan**, prices increased by 12 and 9 percent, respectively, year-on-year. **Azerbaijan** and **Tajikistan** had the highest annual growth, where retail prices of potatoes increased by 32 and 41 percent, respectively, in March 2023 compared to last year due to increased fertilizer costs and reduced stocks as a result of poor storage conditions amidst colder-than-usual weather and electricity shortages across Central Asian countries, including Tajikistan during the winter.

Export prices of milling wheat in the Russian Federation

United States dollar per tonne

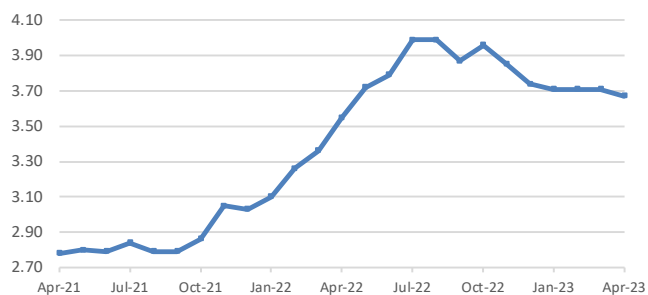


	Latest Price	Percent Change		
	Apr-23	1M	3M	1Y
■ Wheat (milling, offer, f.o.b., deep-sea ports)	277.50	-3.3	-9.7	-26.5

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

Retail prices of wheat flour in Georgia

Lari per kg

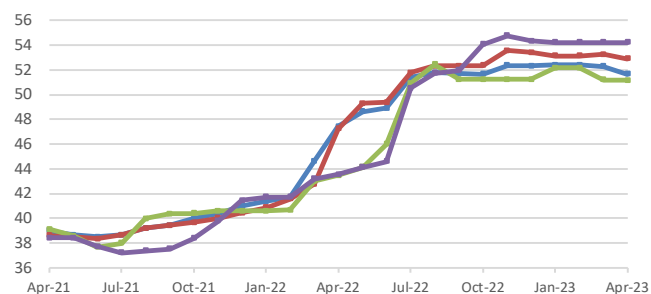


■ National Average, Wheat (flour)

Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
3.67	-1.1	-1.1	3.4

Retail prices of wheat flour in Kyrgyzstan

Som per kg



■ National Average, Wheat (flour, first grade)

■ Bishkek, Wheat (flour, first grade)

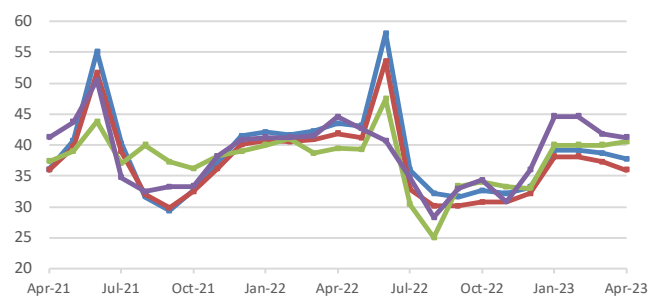
■ Jalal-Abad, Wheat (flour, first grade)

■ Batken, Wheat (flour, first grade)

Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
51.67	-1.1	-1.4	8.9
52.90	-0.7	-0.5	12.0
51.15	-0.1	-1.9	17.7
54.22	0.0	0.0	24.5

Retail prices of potatoes in Kyrgyzstan

Som per kg



■ Bishkek

■ National Average

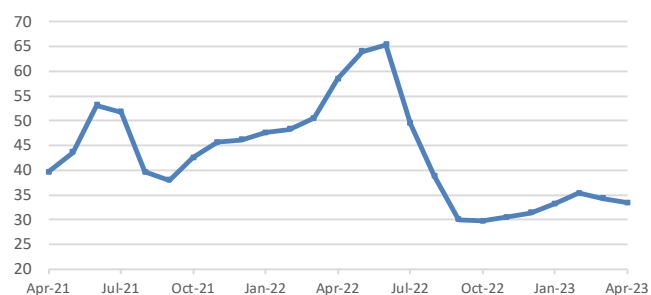
■ Batken

■ Jalal-Abad

Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
37.75	-2.4	-3.5	-13.2
35.94	-3.6	-5.7	-14.0
40.53	1.3	1.3	2.8
41.20	-1.3	-7.6	-7.5

Retail prices of potatoes in the Russian Federation

Russian rouble per kg

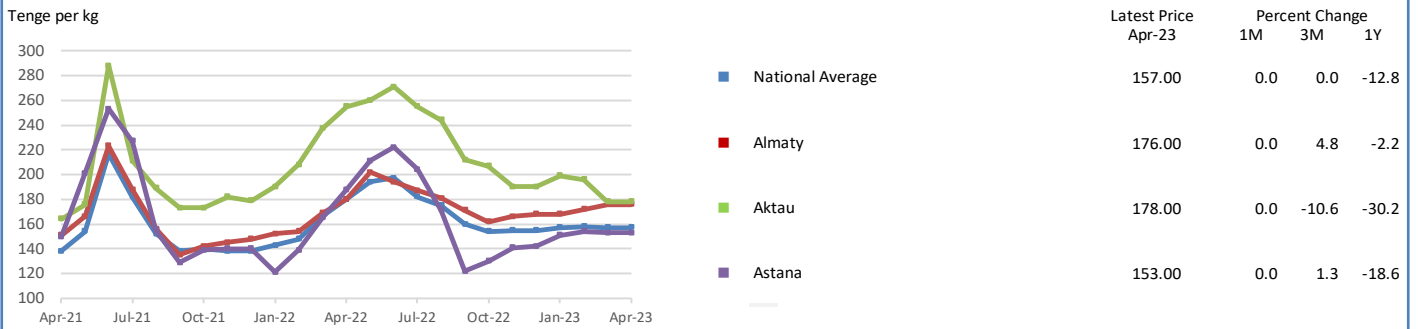


■ National Average

Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
	1M	3M	1Y
33.38	-2.5	0.5	-42.9

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

Retail prices of potatoes in Kazakhstan



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

CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Prices of beans and white maize remained above their April 2022 levels

In April 2023, wholesale prices of beans were higher than their year-earlier values, prompted by elevated costs of agricultural inputs, fuel and labour. In **Nicaragua**, after the seasonal declines in the previous two months, prices of red beans rose by 5 percent on a monthly basis and were up more than 60 percent year-on-year. The high level of prices reflects large exports between September 2022 and February 2023, which were nearly 20 percent above their year-earlier levels. Similarly, in **Honduras** and **El Salvador**, after a short-lived decline in March, prices strengthened to levels more than 40 percent higher year-on-year. Regarding black beans, the start of the harvest in the northern producing region provided downward pressure on prices in **Guatemala**, which, nevertheless, remained more than 15 percent higher year-on-year. In **Mexico**, prices mostly decreased, with the 2023 minor harvest nearing completion. The minor season output, typically accounting for about 25 percent of the annual production, is expected to decline due to a contraction in plantings that were more than 15 percent lower year-on-year. Prices remained above their year-earlier levels in most markets, reflecting the reduced production in 2022.

Wholesale prices of white maize were at least 10 percent above those a year earlier across the subregion, reflecting elevated production and transport costs. In **El Salvador**, wholesale prices of white maize declined for the second consecutive month in April due to larger year-on-year imports in the first quarter of the year. Prices also declined in **Guatemala**, with improved market supplies from the ongoing harvest in the northern region. By contrast, prices continued their upward trends for the fourth straight month in **Honduras** and for the fifth consecutive month in

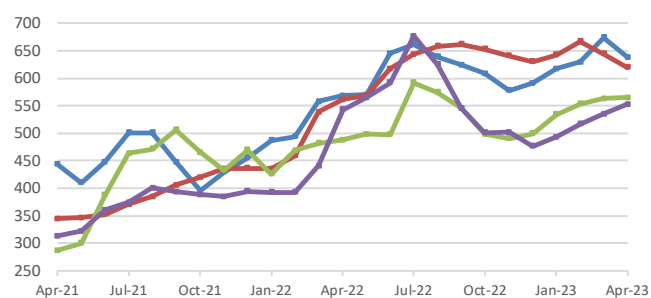
Nicaragua, reflecting reduced supplies, in line with seasonal trends. In **Mexico**, where the 2023 minor harvest started in April, prices exhibited mixed trends and remained above their year-earlier levels on account of the below-average harvest in 2022. The 2023 minor season output is expected to rise, due to slightly above-average plantings, which registered a 10 percent annual increase.

In **Costa Rica**, retail prices of beans declined in April, reflecting larger year-on-year imports between November 2022 and February 2023, and remained 14 percent above their year-earlier levels. The high prices reflect elevated quotations in Nicaragua and the United States of America, the key bean exporters to the country. Retail prices of rice weakened modestly with the ongoing minor harvest and were similar to their values a year earlier. In **the Dominican Republic**, retail prices of rice strengthened in March and April, on account of the below-average minor harvest gathered between October 2022 and January 2023, and were marginally higher year-on-year.

In **Haiti**, retail prices of domestically produced black beans increased or were stable, while prices of maize meal showed mixed trends in March. Prices of staple grains remained at elevated levels, at least 35 percent higher year-on-year, driven by the below-average 2022 harvest and high transport costs. Disrupted supplies to regional markets as a result of heightened insecurity and fuel shortages added upward pressure on prices. Prices of imported food items were generally stable in March and were above their year-earlier levels due to the continuous depreciation of the national currency.

Wholesale prices of white maize in Central America

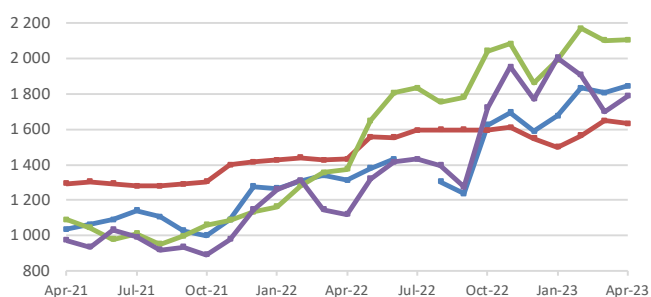
United States dollar per tonne



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Guatemala, Guatemala City	638.00	-5.3	3.4	12.3
El Salvador, San Salvador	619.52	-3.8	-3.6	10.4
Nicaragua, Managua (oriental)	564.96	0.4	5.7	15.8
Honduras, Tegucigalpa	552.86	3.4	12.2	1.8

Wholesale prices of beans in Central America

United States dollar per tonne



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Honduras, Tegucigalpa, Beans (red)	1 844.48	2.1	10.1	40.7
Guatemala, Guatemala City, Beans (black)	1 632.84	-1.0	8.9	14.1
El Salvador, San Salvador, Beans (red)	2 106.28	0.2	5.7	53.4
Nicaragua, Managua (oriental), Beans (red)	1 786.18	5.1	-10.9	59.8

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

Prices of rice and maize decreased seasonally, except in countries with unfavourable production prospects

In most countries of the subregion, wholesale prices of rice declined in line with seasonal trends. The 2023 harvest, which was nearing completion in **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)** and **Uruguay**, and ongoing in **Brazil**, exerted downward pressure on prices. In **Uruguay**, prices in April were down more than 10 percent year-on-year, reflecting ample supplies from the above-average 2022 harvest. By contrast, in **Brazil**, prices were higher year-on-year in the key paddy producing state of Rio Grande do Sul, driven by tight supplies after two consecutive years of reduced output. Prices strengthened or were stable in **Ecuador**, as the recent start of the main harvest has yet to increase market supplies. In **Colombia**, despite the ongoing minor season harvest, rice prices continued to increase in April and recorded historic highs, owing to limited supplies from the below-average 2022 harvest, exacerbated by elevated production and transport costs.

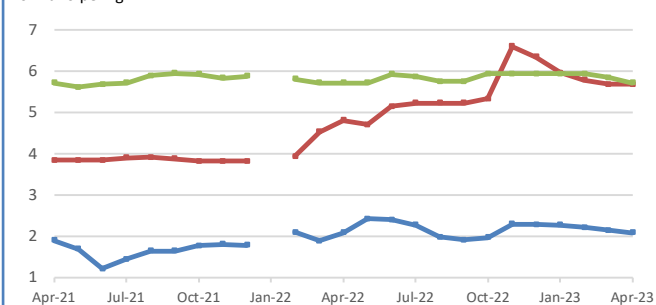
Wholesale prices of yellow maize also mostly decreased, with the notable exception of Argentina and Uruguay, where the 2023 crop is adversely affected by prolonged drought conditions. Despite the ongoing harvest, prices rose sharply in **Uruguay**, by nearly 15 percent month-on-month. In **Argentina**, prices continue to rise in April, as the downward pressure from the ongoing 2023 harvest was offset by the expectation of a reduction in output, officially forecast at more than 20 percent below the average. By contrast, in most markets of **Brazil**, prices continued to decrease with improved supplies from the minor harvest and were lower year-on-year, reflecting bumper harvests in 2022. Additional downward

pressure was provided by generally favourable production prospects for the main crop, to be harvested from July, which accounts for about 75 percent of the annual production. Prices weakened across **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)** with the ongoing main harvest, while prices were stable in **Ecuador** ahead of the 2023 main season harvest in May. In **Chile** and **Colombia**, prices declined in April with increased market availabilities from the larger year-on-year imports during the previous three months.

Prices of wheat and wheat flour exhibited mixed trends in April. In **Argentina**, the subregion's major wheat producer, following four months of general stability, prices of wheat increased in April and remained well above those a year earlier due to tight supplies from the dryness-affected 2022 output. Prices of wheat, in April, also rose in **Chile**, after decreasing steadily since September 2022. In **Brazil**, wheat prices declined in Paraná State, with the start of the 2023 planting season, amid expectations for record sowings. In the other top producing state of Rio Grande do Sul, where planting typically starts in May, prices strengthened marginally. In **Uruguay**, wheat prices decreased, as lower year-on-year exports during the first quarter of 2023 increased domestic supplies. In **Brazil** and **Uruguay**, prices remained at least 15 percent lower year-on-year, reflecting well above-average 2022 harvests. In importing countries where wheat flour prices were up from a year earlier, prices remained stable in **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)** and **Ecuador**, while they rose in **Colombia**.

Wholesale prices of cereals in Bolivia (Plurinational State of)

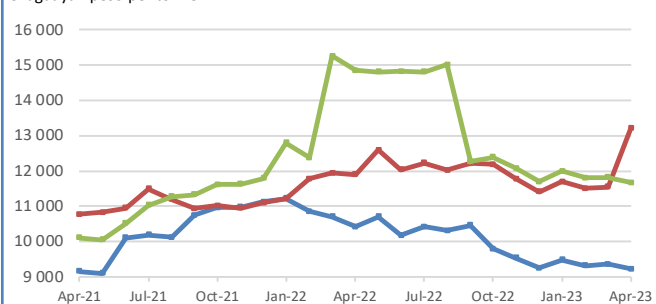
Boliviano per kg



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
■ Santa Cruz, Maize (yellow)	2.09	-2.3	-7.9	0.0
■ La Paz, Wheat (flour)	5.69	0.2	-4.5	18.3
■ Santa Cruz, Rice (first quality)	5.72	-2.2	-3.7	0.0

Wholesale prices of cereals in Uruguay

Uruguayan peso per tonne

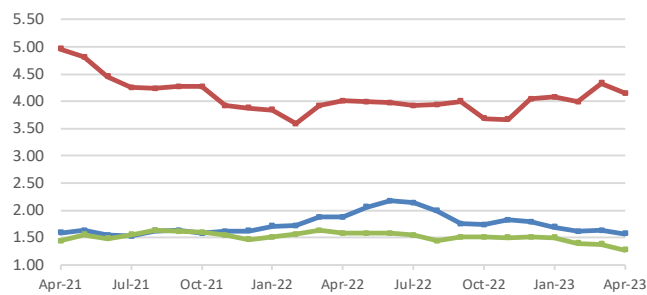


	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
■ National Average, Rice	9 227.60	-1.3	-2.6	-11.4
■ National Average, Maize	13 198.73	14.4	12.8	10.9
■ National Average, Wheat	11 660.66	-1.3	-2.8	-21.4

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

Wholesale prices of cereals in Brazil

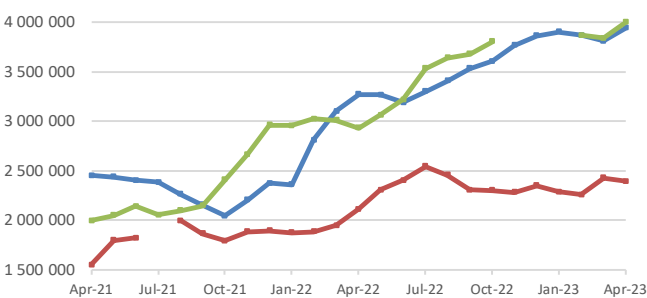
Brazilian real per kg



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Paraná, Wheat	1.57	-3.7	-7.1	-16.5
Rio Grande do Sul, Rice (milled, fine long-grain, type 1)	4.15	-4.2	1.7	3.5
Mato Grosso, Maize (yellow)	1.27	-8.0	-15.3	-19.6

Wholesale prices of cereals in Colombia

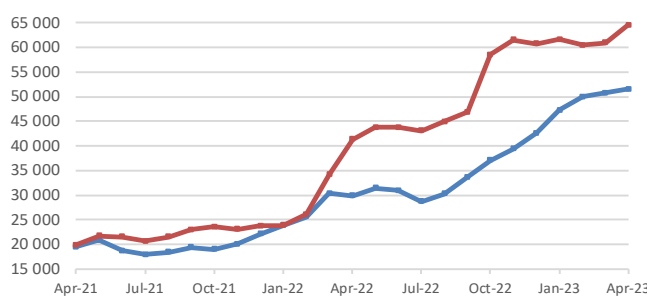
Colombian peso per tonne



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Bogotá, Rice (first quality)	3 941 500	3.5	1.0	20.4
Bogotá, Maize (yellow)	2 396 750	-1.2	4.7	13.4
Bogotá, Wheat (flour)	3 998 250	4.1	-	36.3

Wholesale prices of cereals in Argentina

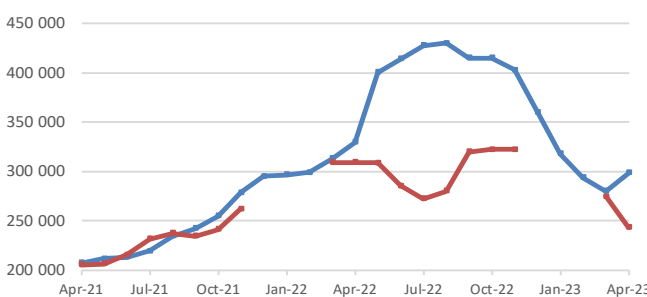
Argentine peso per tonne



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
Rosario, Maize (yellow)	51 537.00	1.6	9.0	72.7
Córdoba, Wheat	64 501.90	5.8	4.7	55.9

Wholesale prices of cereals in Chile

Chilean peso per tonne



	Latest Price Apr-23	Percent Change		
		1M	3M	1Y
National Average, Wheat	298 750	6.7	-6.1	-9.4
National Average, Maize (yellow)	243 440	-11.5	-	-21.3

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

This bulletin was 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 Markets and Trade 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.

The source of the data from which charts and tables included in this report are elaborated is the **FAO/GIEWS Food Price Monitoring and Analysis (FPMA) Tool**. The FPMA Tool database includes monthly retail and/or wholesale price series of major foods consumed in over 95 countries and weekly/monthly prices for over 80 internationally traded foodstuffs and feedstuffs. Visit the tool on the GIEWS website here: <https://fpma.fao.org/>

This report is based on information available up to early May 2023.

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

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