Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FPMA BULLETIN

Food Price Monitoring and Analysis

#4

10 May 2018

MONTHLY REPORT ON FOOD PRICE TRENDS

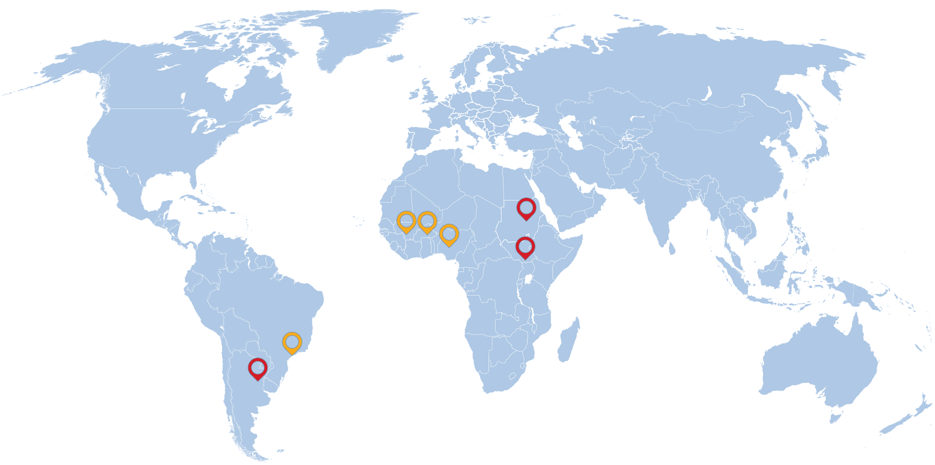
KEY MESSAGES

- **International prices of wheat and maize in April were generally higher, supported by weather concerns in key producing countries and brisk trade. International prices of rice increased in response to renewed import demand in Asia.**
- **In East Africa, in the Sudan, prices of staple foods, millet, sorghum and wheat, remained firm or increased in April and were at record or near-record highs, underpinned by a weak currency, the removal of wheat subsidies and increased transport costs.**
- **In Central America, prices of white maize increased sharply in March and April and reached levels well above those a year earlier in most countries of the subregion. Seasonal upward pressure was supported by higher purchasing prices from the milling industry, trends in the international market and increased fuel costs.**
- **In South America, prices of yellow maize and wheat continued to increase in Argentina, underpinned by strong demand and forecasts of lower crops this year. Prices of maize rose sharply also in Brazil, due to large exports and expectations of a decline in the 2018 harvests; those of wheat increased following the sharply reduced production last year and costlier imports.**

CONTENTS

Domestic price warnings

Price warning level: High Moderate [Based on GIEWS analysis]



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

The designations employed and the presentation of material in the map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal or constitutional status of any country, territory or sea area, or concerning the delimitation of frontiers.

Argentina | Grains

Brazil | Grains

Burkina Faso | Coarse grains

Mali | Coarse grains

Nigeria | Staple foods

South Sudan | Staple foods

Sudan | Staple foods

INTERNATIONAL CEREAL PRICES

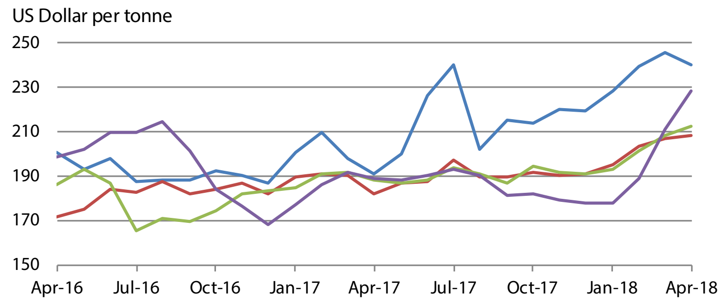
International prices of cereals generally increased in April

Export prices of **wheat** were mostly firmer in April, particularly in the southern hemisphere key-producing countries. In Argentina, prices increased by nearly 30 percent over the past three months, supported by continued strong demand, a sliding currency and concerns about dry conditions for planting of the new crop. In Australia, dry weather ahead of the sowing period raised export quotations in April. In the Black Sea region, a strong pace of exports and currency movements continued to underpin prices. By contrast, the benchmark US wheat (No.2 Hard Red Winter, f.o.b.) averaged USD 240 per tonne, slightly down from March, but still 26 percent higher than in April 2017. A reduction in export sales and ample supplies more than offset the upward pressure provided by concerns over the impact of dryness on this year's winter crop and delays in the sowing of spring wheat.

International prices of **maize** continued to increase in April. The benchmark US maize (No.2, Yellow, f.o.b.) averaged USD 175 per tonne, slightly higher than in March and more than 11 percent above its level a year earlier. US export prices were underpinned by strong demand coupled with lower planting expectations and delays in field work due to cold and wet weather. The upward pressure was further supported by a sharp reduction in this year's output in Argentina and concerns about the impact of dry conditions on the 2018 main season crop in Brazil. In Ukraine, strong overseas demand continued to support export prices, which averaged more than 20 percent above last year's level.

The FAO All **Rice** Price Index (2002-2004=100) averaged 230.6 points in April, up 2 percent from March and at its highest level since November 2014. Indica prices led this increase, rising in Pakistan, Thailand and Viet Nam, following the return of Indonesia and the Philippines to the international market. Sentiment tended to be less bullish in India, where price gains were capped by *rabi* crop arrivals and a depreciating Rupee. In the Americas, export values held steady in Argentina and Uruguay, while supply tightness continued to underpin quotations in the United States of America. Prices also posted a 2 percent monthly increase in Brazil, notwithstanding the downward pressure from a weaker local currency and harvest progress.

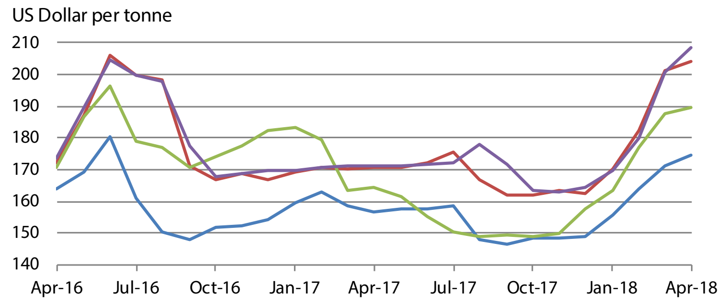
International wheat prices



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
US (Gulf), Wheat (US No. 2, Hard Red Winter)	240.25	-2.1	5.1	26
EU (France), Wheat (grade 1)	208.75	1	6.8	14.7
Black Sea, Wheat (milling)	212.50	2	10	12.9
Argentina, Wheat (Argentina, Trigo Pan, Up River, f.o.b.)	228.50	8.3	28.7	20.7

Source(s): International Grains Council

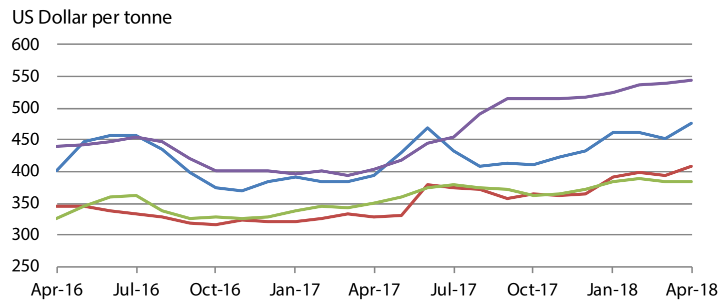
International maize prices



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
US (Gulf), Maize (US No. 2,	174.68	2	12.3	11.4
Black Sea, Maize (feed)	204.00	1.4	19.9	19.5
Argentina, Maize (Argentina, Up River, f.o.b.)	189.75	1.2	16	15.3
Ukraine, Maize (offer, f.o.b.)	208.50	3.9	22.8	21.9

Source(s): USDA; International Grains Council; APK-Inform Agency

International rice prices



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Thailand (Bangkok), Rice (Thai 100% B)	477.50	5.4	3.4	21.1
Viet Nam, Rice (25% broken)	408.75	3.7	4.6	24.4
India, Rice (25% broken)	383.75	-0.3	0	9.6
US, Rice (US Long Grain 2.4%)	543.00	0.7	3.3	34.2

Source(s): Thai Rice Exporters Association; FAO rice price update

For more information visit the FPMA website here

DOMESTIC PRICE WARNINGS

Countries where prices of one or more basic food commodity are at abnormal high levels which could negatively impact access to food

Argentina | Grains

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 04/18	Same period average
3 months	6.4	-0.7
12 months	2.0	0.4

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Argentina, Rosario, Wholesale, Maize (yellow)

Prices of yellow maize and wheat continue to increase

Prices of **yellow maize** continued to increase in April and reached record highs in nominal terms, nearly 60 percent above their year-earlier level. Prices were underpinned by the impact of prolonged dry conditions on the 2018 maize crop, being harvested, which is forecast 15 percent down from the record level of 2017. Strong export sales, supported by a sliding currency, also contributed to the upward pressure. Prices of **wheat grain** increased sharply for the fourth consecutive month and reached record highs, in nominal terms, in April. Seasonal upward pressure was compounded by trends in the international market, a strong pace of exports and, more recently, concerns over dryness ahead of the new crop planting. The higher prices of grains underpinned those of **wheat flour**, which increased by 20 percent in April and reached record highs, nearly 30 percent above their values a year earlier.

Brazil | Grains

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 04/18	Same period average
3 months	7.8	-1.1
12 months	2.6	-0.3

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Brazil, National Average, Wholesale, Maize (yellow)

Prices of yellow maize and wheat increase sharply

Prices of **yellow maize** increased sharply in the past two months although harvesting of the first season crop, representing around 30 percent of the total annual production, is ongoing. An anticipated 15 percent decline in the first season output and lower main season plantings underpinned prices. Further upward pressure was provided by strong demand and increasing concerns over the impact of prolonged dry weather on the main crops in southern growing areas. Prices reached levels about 40 percent above those a year earlier. Prices of **wheat grain** increased by more than 10 percent in April to levels over 20 percent higher year on year. Seasonal trends, with planting of the 2018 crop currently underway, were compounded by the sharply-reduced crop last year and costlier imports, which led to a decline in imports since the beginning of 2018. The country imports around half of its consumption requirements, mostly from Argentina.

Burkina Faso | Coarse grains

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 04/18	Same period average
3 months	1.7	3.2
12 months	1.1	0.1

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Burkina Faso, Ouagadougou, Wholesale, Sorghum (local)

Prices of coarse grains generally stable but high

Prices of **millet** and **sorghum** remained relatively stable in April, while those of **maize** increased in most markets. Prices were overall higher than a year earlier, despite the good 2017 cereal output. This is mainly explained by continuing large institutional demand for cereals or resulting reduced availabilities in the markets. Localized production shortfalls and insecurity in the north of the country disrupting markets provided further upward pressure on prices. The Government is providing assistance to the most vulnerable population in some areas. In general, however, despite relatively high prices, the food situation in the country remains overall satisfactory also as a result of humanitarian support and solid home garden production.

Price warning level: High Moderate

For more information visit the FPMA website here

Mali | Coarse grains

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 04/18	Same period average
3 months	4.3	0.7
12 months	1.1	0.1

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Mali, Bamako, Wholesale, Millet (local)

Prices of coarse grains broadly unchanged but at high levels

Prices of **coarse grains** remained broadly unchanged in April but were still overall above their year-earlier values, despite a satisfactory supply situation from the above-average cereal harvest in 2017. Prices were mainly underpinned by the total or partial retention of crop supplies to meet the strong institutional demand for stock replenishment. Insecurity in northern areas disrupting traditional supply routes and localized production shortfalls across the country, added to the upward pressure on prices. The high demand from the deficit areas in northern parts of the country and from neighbouring countries also contributed to keep prices at relatively high levels. In an effort to reduce prices, the Government is selling cereals at subsidized prices in some areas.

Nigeria | Staple foods

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 03/18	Same period average
3 months	8.8	2.6
12 months	-3.1	0.3

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Nigeria, Kano, Wholesale, Maize (white)

Prices of food remain high but rate of increase continue to slow down

Wholesale prices of **staple foods** remained relatively stable or weakened in March and were generally below the high levels last year following the good 2017 harvests and as a result of improving economic conditions. Prices, however, remained overall high, well above those of March 2016, particularly in the northeastern parts of the country, where the ongoing conflict continues to hinder food production and marketing activities. In general, the high level of food prices in the country mainly reflects the lingering effects of the sharp depreciation of the local currency against the US dollar in June 2016, after the Central Bank's decision to allow the exchange rate to float. Increased fuel costs, coupled with demand from neighbouring countries, also supported prices. The year-on-year food inflation slowed for the fourth consecutive month in March and led to a further decline in the general annual inflation, which averaged 13.3 percent, the lowest level in the past two years. However, despite the slowdown in the growth of food prices, food inflation in March remained at 16 percent, which is the weakest rate of growth since July 2016 but nevertheless still represents a major concern, particularly for households in conflict-affected regions, who heavily rely on markets as the main source of food.

South Sudan | Staple foods

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 04/18	Same period average
3 months	3.1	0.1
12 months	-2.1	0.0

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

Prices of most food items increase further and at exceptionally high levels

Prices of **maize** and **sorghum** continued to strengthen in April in the capital, Juba, but were 8 and 10 percent lower than their record highs in June 2017, respectively. The lower level of prices reflects the availability of supplies from the 2017 harvests, albeit reduced, continued food aid distributions and Government subsidized sales of basic food commodities. Prices of **wheat flour**, **groundnuts** and **cassava** increased in April. In general, prices of staple foods in April were 30 percent to nearly 70 percent higher than the already high levels a year earlier, driven by an overall tight supply situation, with the lack of foreign currency constraining imports, a significant depreciation of the local currency and widespread insecurity. The ongoing conflict is disrupting trade flows and the delivery of humanitarian assistance and severely hampering agricultural activities. According to the findings of the 2017 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM Report), the 2017 aggregate cereal production is estimated at about 764 000 tonnes, the smallest volume since the start of the conflict in 2013, due to the impact of insecurity on agricultural activities.

Price warning level: High Moderate

For more information visit the FPMA website here

Sudan | Staple foods

Growth Rate (%)		
	to 04/18	Same period average
3 months	0.6	1.2
12 months	7.1	-0.6

Compound growth rate in real terms.
Refers to: Sudan, El Gedarif, Wholesale, Sorghum (Feterita)

Prices of staple foods remained firm or continued to increase in April and at record or near-record highs

Prices of **sorghum** remained relatively stable for the second consecutive month in several markets in April, mainly as a result of the sales, at subsidized prices, by the Strategic Reserve Corporation, while prices of **millet** resumed a generally upward trend after levelling off in March. In the capital, Khartoum, prices of **wheat** increased in April by more than 10 percent after a 20 percent decline in March. Overall, cereal prices in April were more than twice their year-earlier levels and at record or near-record highs after the sharp increases in late 2017 and early 2018, following the removal of wheat subsidies in the 2018 budget (FPMA Food Policies) and the strong depreciation of the local currency. The exchange rate of the Sudanese Pound declined sharply since late 2017 after the international sanctions were lifted in October 2017 ending a trade embargo and unfreezing financial assets. The removal of subsidies on electricity, coupled with limited availabilities of fuel across the country and resulting higher prices of transport, contributed to underpin food prices. Localized production shortfalls, affecting the 2017 harvest, provided further support to the prices of cereals. According to the findings of the 2017 FAO Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission (CFSAM Report), the 2017 aggregate cereal production is estimated at 5.2 million tonnes, 40 percent lower than the record 2016 output. This is mainly due to a decline in the area planted with sorghum and millet, following farmers' decision to switch to more profitable cash crops and to production shortfalls in Kassala, Gedaref and North Darfur states, where the output contracted by 66-90 percent from the previous year following poor and erratic rainfall.

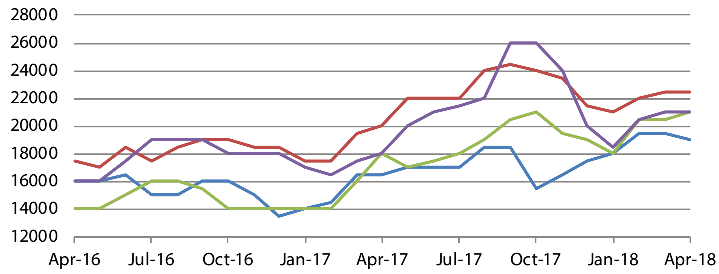
Price warning level: High Moderate

For more information visit the FPMA website here

Prices of cereals relatively stable but higher than a year earlier

In the Sahel belt, prices of coarse grains and rice remained generally stable in April reflecting the bumper 2017 cereal harvests and steady imports, which contributed to keep markets adequately supplied. In **Burkina Faso** and **Mali**, prices of coarse grains remained mostly unchanged compared to March but were still higher than in April last year, supported by localized production shortfalls and commodity retention by market players to meet institutional demand for stock replenishment. In **Niger**, prices of coarse grains were stable or increased in some markets but were still generally below their levels a year earlier, reflecting the good 2017 cereal output and steady imports from neighbouring countries, including Nigeria. In **Senegal**, prices of sorghum increased in March reflecting a reduced output in the previous harvest, while those of maize and millet remained generally stable as a result of good market availabilities and steady demand. In **Chad**, prices of coarse grains showed mixed trends in March and were generally higher year on year, due to the reduced 2017 harvests in some regions and conflict in the Lake Chad Region hampering normal market functioning. In coastal countries, prices of maize in **Ghana** remained relatively stable in April but were above their year-earlier values, with the general inflation rate contributing to the higher year-on-year level. In **Togo**, prices of maize strengthened somewhat in most markets in March, supported by institutional purchases for stock rebuilding and also in **Benin** strong demand from restocking activities underpinned prices of maize. In **Nigeria**, prices of coarse grains remained relatively stable or weakened further in March and were well below the high levels of a year earlier. Prices, in nominal terms, however, lingered at levels above those of two years earlier, before the sharp depreciation of the local currency in June 2016, which underpinned prices.

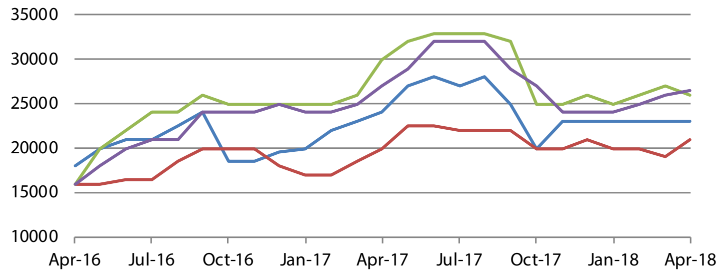
Wholesale prices of sorghum and millet in Burkina Faso and Mali



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Burkina Faso, Ouagadougou, Sorghum (local)	19000.0	-2.6	5.6	15.2
Burkina Faso, Ouagadougou, Millet (local)	22500.0	0	7.1	12.5
Mali, Bamako, Sorghum (local)	21000.0	2.4	16.7	16.7
Mali, Bamako, Millet (local)	21000.0	0	13.5	16.7

Source(s): Afrique verte

Wholesale prices of millet and sorghum in Niger

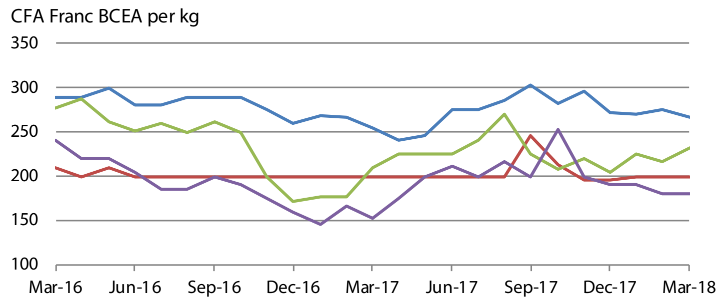


	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Niamey, Millet (local)	23000.0	0	0	-4.2
Niamey, Sorghum (local)	21000.0	10.5	5	5
Agadez, Millet (local)	26000.0	-3.7	4	-13.3
Agadez, Sorghum (local)	26500.0	1.9	10.4	-1.9

Source(s): Afrique verte

For more information visit the FPMA website here

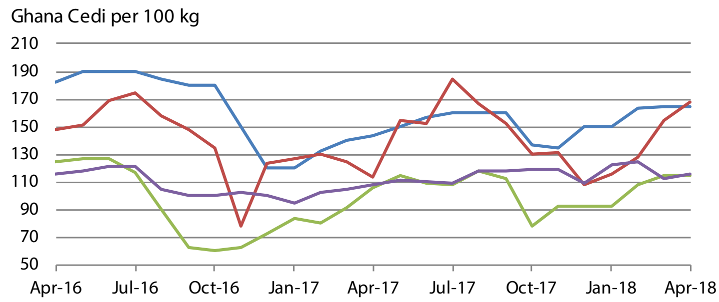
Retail prices of coarse grains in Chad



	Latest Price (Mar-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
N'Djamena, Millet	266.00	-3.6	-2.2	4.7
N'Djamena, Sorghum	200.00	0	2	0
Moussoro, Maize	233.00	7.9	13.7	11.5
Moundou, Millet	180.00	0	-5.3	18.4

Source(s): FEWSNET

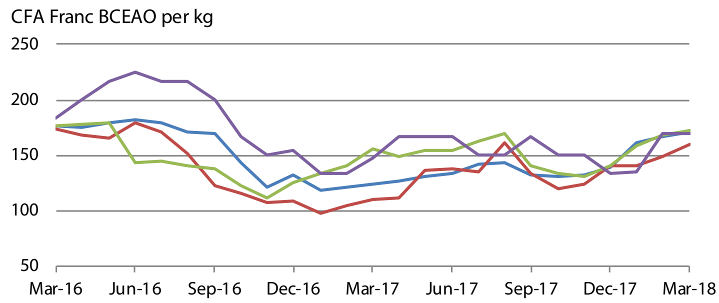
Wholesale prices of maize in Ghana



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Accra	164.44	0	9.6	14.2
Kumasi	167.55	8.7	44.4	47.5
Techiman	115.00	-0.1	25	8.5
Bolgatanga	115.73	2.7	-5.8	7.2

Source(s): Marketing Services Unit, SRID (MOFA)

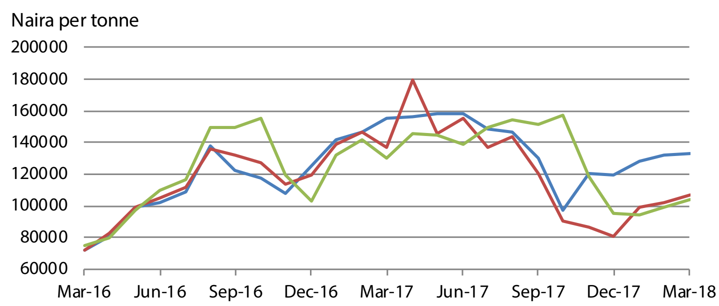
Retail prices of maize in Togo



	Latest Price (Mar-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Kara	171.00	2.4	23	37.9
Cinkassé	160.00	7.4	14.3	45.5
Korbongou	172.00	2.4	22.9	10.3
Lomé	170.00	0	27.8	14.9

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

Wholesale prices of cereals in Kano, Nigeria



	Latest Price (Mar-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Millet	133500.	0.8	12.2	-14.2
Maize (white)	107000.	4.9	32.1	-22
Sorghum (white)	103500.	4	8.9	-20.6

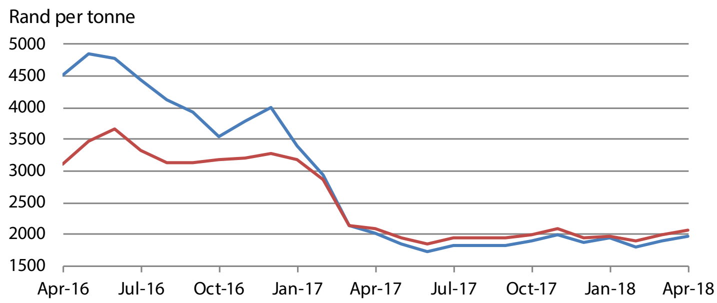
Source(s): FEWSNET

For more information visit the FPMA website here

Prices of maize remain low

Prices of maize changed little in April and remained lower on a yearly basis, reflecting the overall favourable supply conditions. In **South Africa**, spill-over effects from the international market and a weaker local currency fostered an uptick in prices of maize in April. However, the month-on-month gains were limited on account of a further upward revision to the 2018 production forecast in April, which puts this year's output well above the domestic consumption requirements, indicating a continuation of favourable supply conditions. Prices of wheat also strengthened on account of rising international quotations and the weaker currency, despite expectations of increased plantings for the 2018 crop, currently being sown. In **Mozambique** and **Zambia**, prices of maize weakened in April, with traders and farmers offloading stocks in preparation for the new supplies arriving from the upcoming harvest. Prices were well below their year-earlier values in both countries, however, they are likely to come under increased upward pressure this year due to foreseen production decreases, notably in Zambia where the maize output is expected to drop by over 30 percent year on year. In **Zimbabwe**, prices of maize fell moderately in March, while in **Malawi** they firmed up slightly; in both countries prices were down on a yearly basis. In **Namibia**, a net importer of maize, reduced grain prices in South Africa, the country's main supplier of cereals, contributed to maintain lower year-on-year maize meal prices, which declined in April partly reflecting expectations of an above-average output in 2018. In **Swaziland**, prices of maize meal fell in March and were around one-fifth lower on a yearly basis, also reflecting the lower grain prices in South Africa, the country's main source of cereals. Prices of rice continued to decrease in **Madagascar** from their record highs in January. The recent declines mostly reflect the increased market supplies from the minor 2018 rice crop, while the expected increase in paddy production in 2018 is expected to help alleviate the supply pressure following the sharply-reduced 2017 harvest.

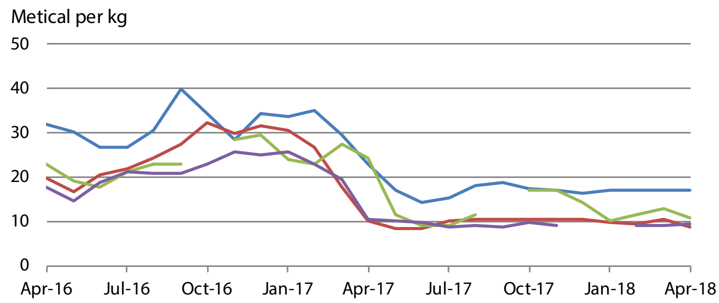
Wholesale prices of maize in Randfontein, South Africa



Source(s): SAFEX Agricultural Products Division

	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Maize (white)	1969.03	3.5	1.9	-1.8
Maize (yellow)	2068.71	4.4	4.8	-1.1

Retail prices of white maize in Mozambique

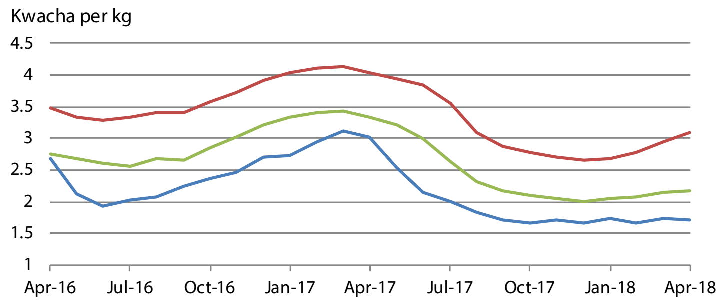


Source(s): Sistema De Informação De Mercados Agrícolas De Moçambique

	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Maputo	17.14	0	0	-25
Gorongosa	8.73	-18	-11.6	-12.6
Manica	10.86	-15.6	5.5	-55.3
Nampula	9.43	3.2	na	-10.9

For more information visit the FPMA website here

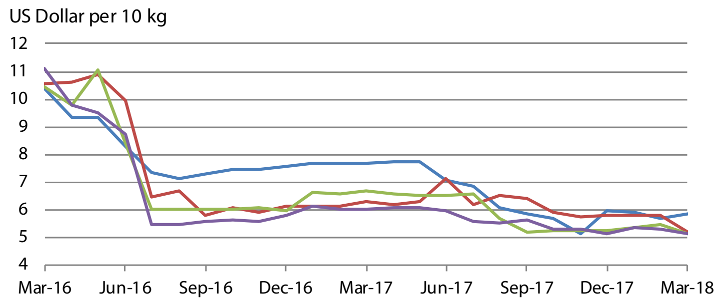
Retail prices of maize in Zambia



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
National Average, Maize (white)	1.71	-0.8	-1	-43.2
National Average, Breakfast maize meal	3.09	5.3	15.1	-23.2
National Average, White roller maize meal	2.16	0.4	6	-35.2

Source(s): Central Statistical Office

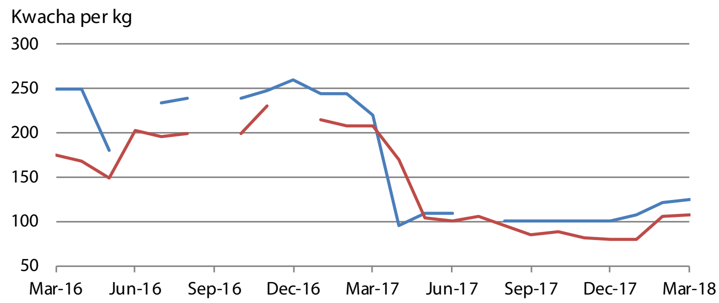
Retail prices of maize meal in Zimbabwe



	Latest Price (Mar-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Harare	5.84	2.8	-2.3	-23.8
Manicaland	5.18	-10.2	-10.4	-17.4
Midlands	5.12	-5.7	-2.7	-23.6
Mash east	5.12	-3.2	0.2	-14.7

Source(s): ZIMSTAT

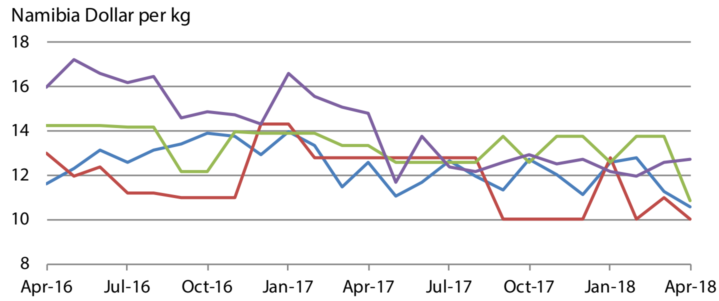
Retail prices of maize in Malawi



	Latest Price (Mar-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Lilongwe, Maize	125.72	3.5	25.7	-42.9
Mzuzu, Maize	107.50	1.2	34.4	-48.3

Source(s): Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

Retail prices of maize meal in Namibia



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Otjiwarongo	10.61	-5.8	-15.8	-15.8
Katima	10.00	-9.1	-21.9	-21.9
Keetmanshoop	10.85	-21.3	-13.7	-18.6
Windhoek	12.71	1.2	4.4	-14.2

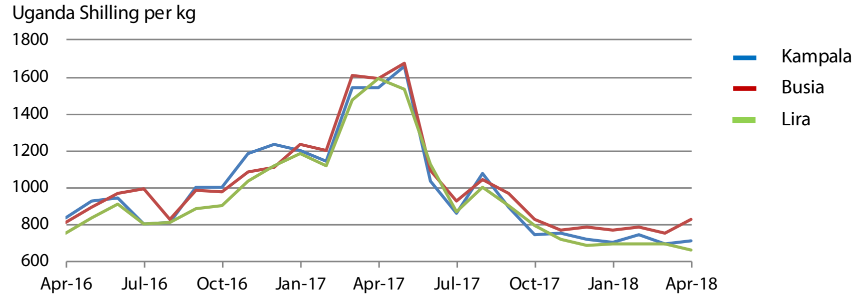
Source(s): Namibia Statistics Agency

For more information visit the FPMA website here

Prices of cereals at low levels except in the Sudan and South Sudan

In several countries of the subregion, prices of cereals remained mostly stable or declined in April and were around or below their year-earlier levels. By contrast, prices were at exceptionally high levels in the Sudan and South Sudan. In **Uganda**, prices of maize were relatively stable in April at about half their high levels a year earlier, when dry conditions had reduced the 2016 crop output, as a result of good domestic supplies from last year's production. In **the United Republic of Tanzania**, prices of maize decreased further or remained stable in April after the sharp declines in March following the *vuli* harvest, completed in February in northeastern bi-modal rainfall areas. Prices were well below their levels a year earlier after steady declines since mid-2017 as a result of the good cereal output last year and the introduction of a maize export ban, which boosted domestic availabilities. In **Ethiopia**, prices of maize remained stable in April for the third consecutive month and were generally higher than their values a year earlier, supported by a weaker currency, after a 15 percent devaluation against the US dollar in October 2017. In **Kenya**, prices of maize continued to decline in April as the recently-completed *short-rains* harvest increased supplies. Prices were well below the high levels in April last year, when drought conditions had seriously affected crop production, partly due to sustained imports. In **Burundi** and **Rwanda**, prices of maize declined further in April to levels about 40 percent below those a year earlier. In **South Sudan**, prices of grains increased further for the third consecutive month in April and were at exceptionally high levels due to overall tight supplies, a weak local currency and widespread insecurity. In **the Sudan**, prices of sorghum remained relatively stable for the second consecutive month in April mainly a result of sales at subsidized prices by the Strategic Reserve Corporation, while an upward movement of millet and wheat prices resumed. Prices of cereals were well above their year-earlier levels and at record or near-record highs, after surging in late 2017 and early 2108, due to the removal of the wheat subsidies in the 2018 budget, the strong depreciation of the local currency and increased transport costs. In **Somalia**, prices of locally-produced maize and sorghum declined in April in southern key markets with the ongoing *deyr* off season harvest. Prices were well below their levels a year earlier.

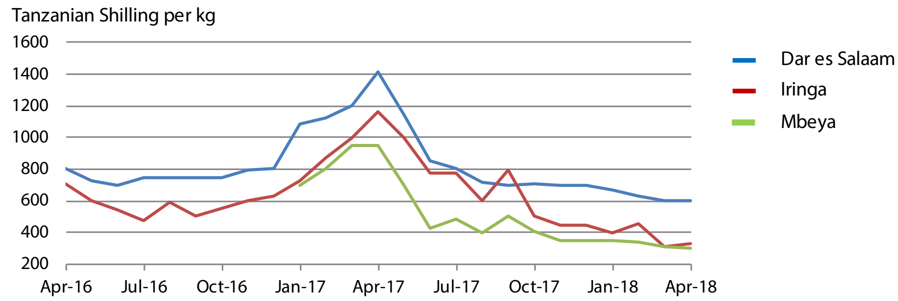
Wholesale prices of maize in Uganda



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Kampala	710.63	2.3	1.4	-54
Busia	826.99	10.4	7	-47.9
Lira	663.75	-4.5	-4.6	-58.3

Source(s): Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network

Wholesale prices of maize in the United Republic of Tanzania



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Dar es Salaam	600.23	0.1	-10.6	-57.5
Iringa	329.98	8	-17.5	-71.6
Mbeya	300.01	-3.6	-14.3	-68.3

Source(s): Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network

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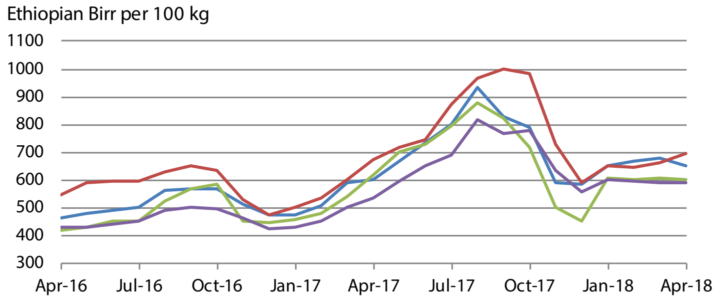
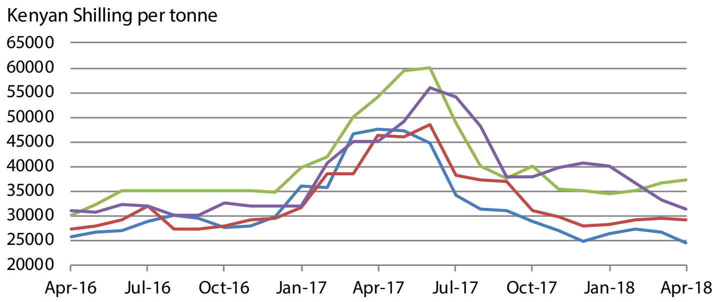
Wholesale prices of maize in Ethiopia



Market	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Addis Ababa	653.67	-3.3	0.4	9
Shashemene	693.33	4.7	6.3	3.1
Jimma	600.00	-0.8	-1	-3.2
Nekemet	590.00	0	-1.7	10.8

Source(s): The Economic Policy Analysis Unit (EPAU)

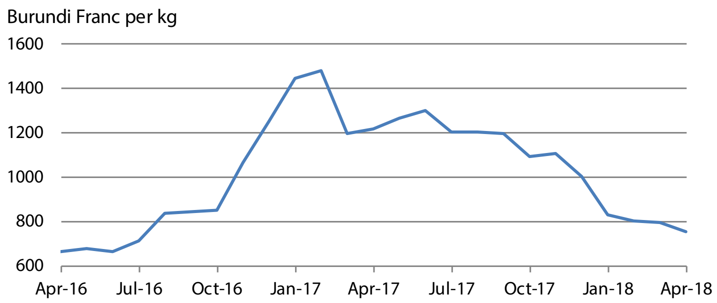
Wholesale prices of maize in Kenya



Market	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Nakuru	24488.0	-8.5	-7.3	-48.5
Eldoret	29091.0	-1.4	3.1	-37.3
Kisumu	37353.0	2.4	8.6	-30.8
Nairobi	31181.0	-5.8	-22.4	-30.7

Source(s): Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network

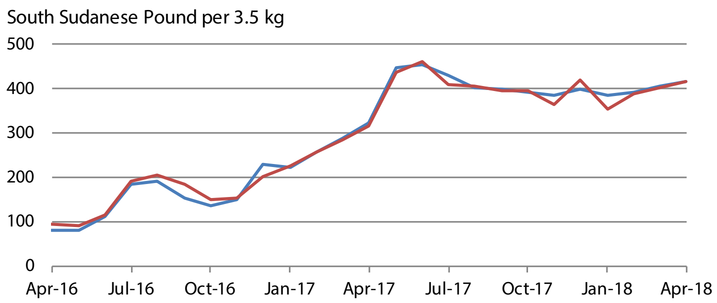
Wholesale prices of maize in Burundi



Market	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Bujumbura, Maize	755.83	-5.1	-8.8	-38

Source(s): Regional Agricultural Trade Intelligence Network

Retail prices of maize and sorghum in South Sudan



Market	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Maize (white)	417.00	2.2	8.3	29.5
Sorghum (Feterita)	418.00	4	18.4	32.3

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

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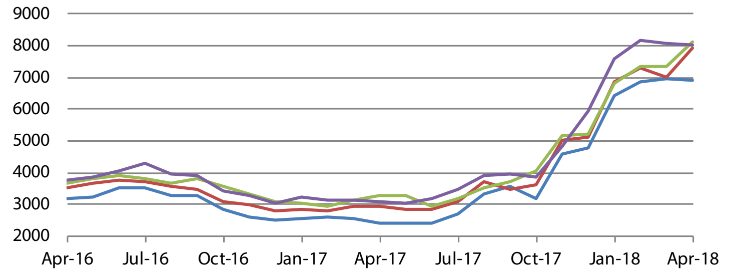
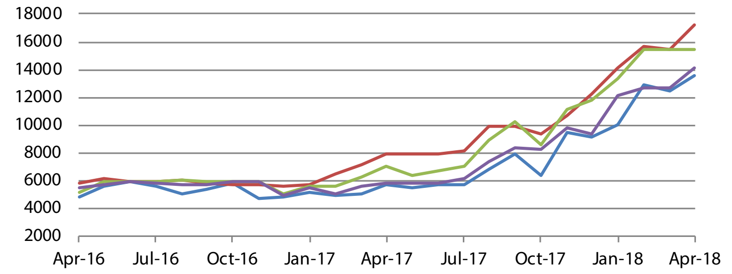
Wholesale prices of sorghum in the Sudan



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

	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
El Gedarif	6926.37	-0.6	7.7	186.5
Khartoum	7933.75	13.4	15.9	170.9
El Obeid	8112.50	10.6	19	147
Port Sudan	8030.00	-0.8	6	160.7

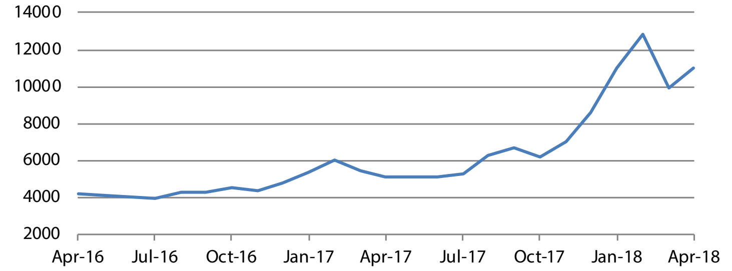
Wholesale prices of millet in the Sudan



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

	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Khartoum	13612.5	9.1	35.6	141.5
Al-Fashir	17215.0	11.8	21.6	118.1
Port Sudan	15400.0	0	15.7	118.8
El Obeid	14107.5	11.1	16.6	140.8

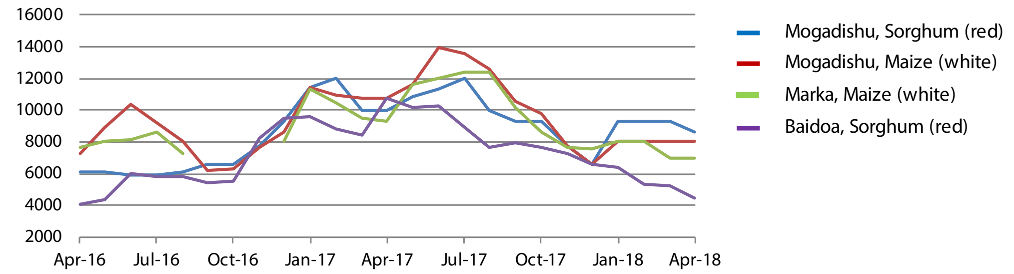
Wholesale prices of wheat in the Sudan



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

	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Khartoum	11027.5	11.4	0.2	117.9

Retail prices of maize and sorghum in Somalia



Source(s): Food Security Analysis Unit

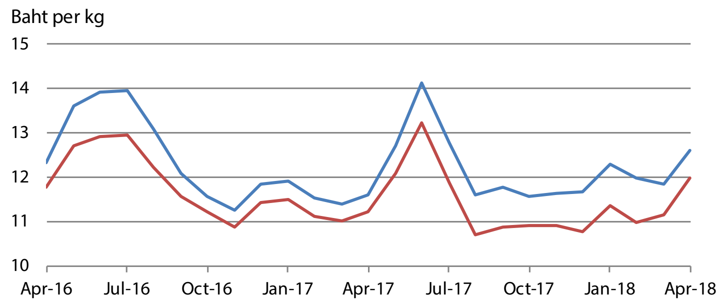
	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Mogadishu, Sorghum (red)	8650.00	-7	-7	-13.1
Mogadishu, Maize (white)	8000.00	0	0	-25.8
Marka, Maize (white)	7000.00	0	-12.5	-24.7
Baidoa, Sorghum (red)	4500.00	-13.5	-29.7	-58.1

For more information visit the FPMA website here

Prices of rice mixed and higher year-on-year, those of wheat flour generally decreasing

Prices of rice showed mixed trends in April and remained higher than their year-earlier levels in most countries of the subregion. Among the main exporters, prices increased in **Thailand**, supported by firm demand and expectations of exports to the Philippines. By contrast, in **Viet Nam** the arrival of a bumper 2018 main crop weighed on prices, although sustained buying interest limited decreases. In the case of **Myanmar**, price declines were more pronounced reflecting growing supplies from the 2018 secondary harvest. Similarly, improved supplies from the record 2017 harvest in **Cambodia** pressured on prices in some markets. In **India**, despite the downward pressure from the progressive arrival of the 2018 record secondary harvest, prices remained overall stable mostly reflecting support from large Government purchases. As for importers, prices continued their upward trend in **the Philippines**, most likely sustained by fuel price increases and declines in Government inventories, although adequate supplies from the bumper 2017 harvest limited the increases. In an effort to replenish the State reserves, the Government opened tenders to import 500 000 tonnes of rice. Similarly, prices edged up in **Sri Lanka** reflecting the recently-completed below-average 2018 main harvest, affected by limited water availability. In **Indonesia** and **Bangladesh**, prices of rice decreased in April reflecting improved market availabilities from the ongoing 2018 main harvests and imports. As for wheat and wheat flour, prices generally decreased, reflecting good supplies throughout the subregion. The strongest price decreases were registered in **Pakistan**, which is currently harvesting the 2018 main crop, officially estimated at a bumper level. Similarly, in **India** the arrival of the 2018 main crop softened wheat prices somewhat, although ongoing large Government procurement purchases limited stronger decreases. Prices also decreased marginally in **Indonesia** owing to the high level of imports. Prices remained relatively stable in **Sri Lanka**, reflecting adequate market supplies from the high imports in recent months, and in **Bangladesh**, also due to imports, as well as supplies from the 2018 wheat harvest, which has just been completed. In **Afghanistan**, prices of wheat and wheat flour declined in April mainly as a result of sustained imports from neighbouring countries.

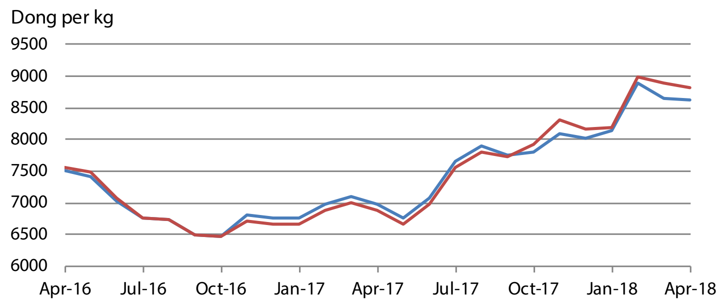
Wholesale prices of rice in Thailand



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Rice (5% broken)	12.62	6.6	2.5	8.9
Rice (25% broken)	12.00	7.6	5.4	7

Source(s): Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce

Wholesale prices of rice in An Giang, Viet Nam



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Rice (25% broken)	8633.33	-0.2	6.1	23.6
Rice (20% broken)	8816.67	-0.8	7.5	28

Source(s): Agroinfo

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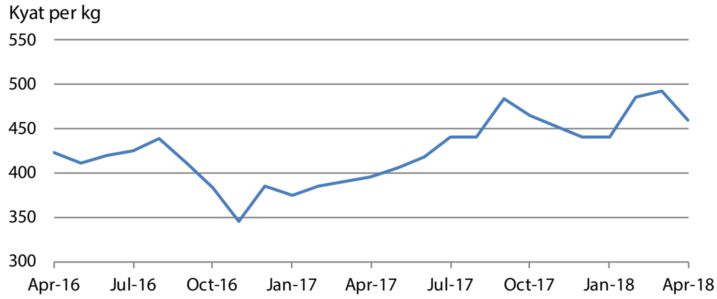
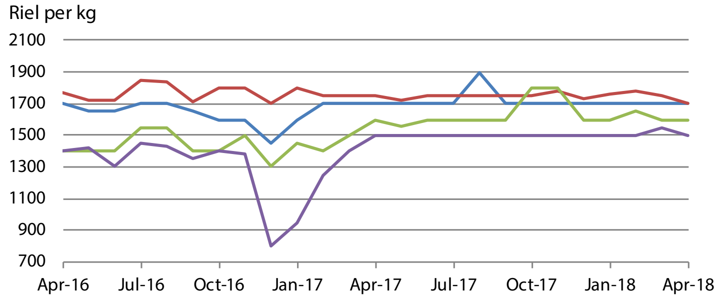
Wholesale prices of rice in Myanmar



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Yangon, Rice (Emata, EHYV-FQ)	459.71	-6.6	4.2	16.2

Source(s): E-Trade Myanmar

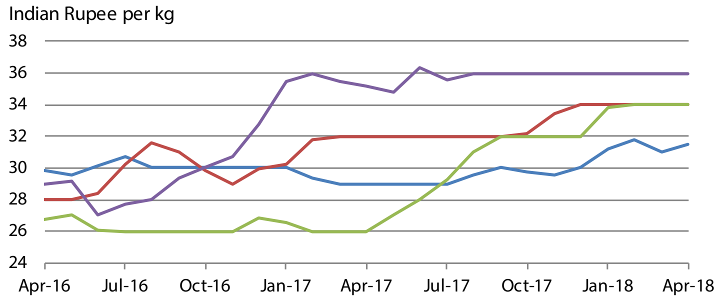
Wholesale prices of rice in Cambodia



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Phnom Penh	1700.00	0	0	0
Kampong Chhnang	1700.00	-2.9	-3.4	-2.9
Banteay Meanchey	1600.00	0	0	0
Battambang	1500.00	-3.2	0	0

Source(s): Cambodia Agricultural Market Information System

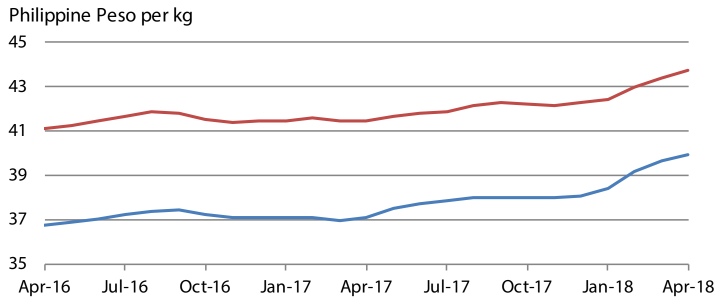
Retail prices of rice in India



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Mumbai	31.47	1.5	0.8	8.5
New Delhi	34.00	0	0	6.2
Patna	34.00	0	0.4	30.8
Chennai	36.00	0	0	2.3

Source(s): Ministry of Consumer Affairs

Retail prices of rice in the Philippines



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
National Average, Rice (regular milled)	39.96	0.7	4.1	7.7
National Average, Rice (well milled)	43.76	0.7	3.1	5.6

Source(s): Bureau of Agricultural Statistics

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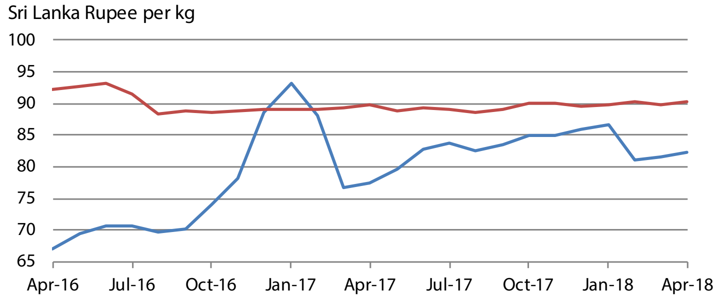
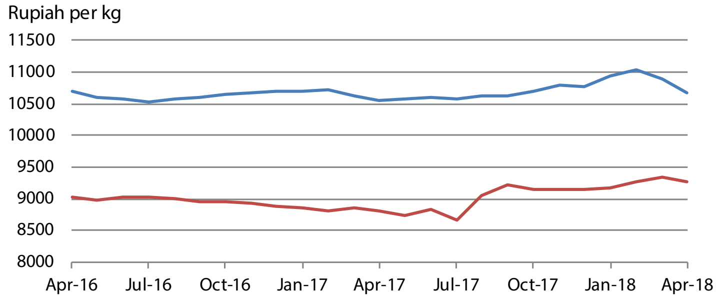
Retail prices of rice and wheat flour in Colombo, Sri Lanka



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Rice (white)	82.20	0.7	-5.2	6.2
Wheat (flour)	90.19	0.5	0.4	0.4

Source(s): Department of Census and Statistics

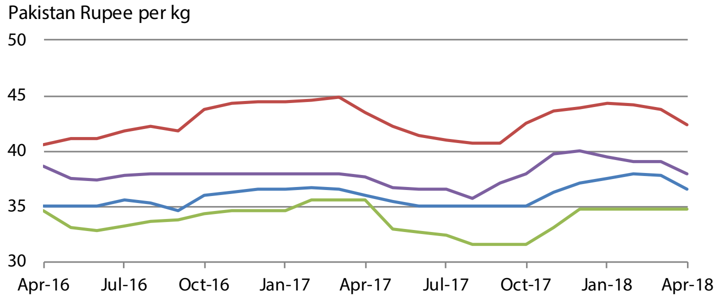
Retail prices of rice and wheat flour in Indonesia



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
National Average, Rice (medium quality)	10666.5	-2.1	-2.5	1
National Average, Wheat (flour)	9268.79	-0.7	1.2	5.1

Source(s): Ministry of Trade

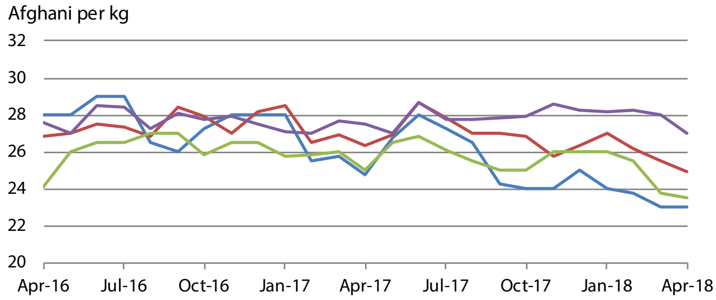
Retail prices of wheat and wheat flour in Pakistan



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Karachi, Wheat	36.50	-3.4	-2.7	1.4
Karachi, Wheat (flour)	42.33	-3.2	-4.4	-2.5
Lahore, Wheat	34.75	0	0	-2.5
Lahore, Wheat (flour)	38.00	-2.6	-3.8	0.9

Source(s): Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

Retail prices of wheat flour in Afghanistan



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Kabul	23.00	0	-4.2	-7.1
Kandahar	24.97	-2	-7.4	-5.2
Jalalabad	23.50	-1.1	-9.6	-6
Herat	27.03	-3.5	-4.1	-1.9

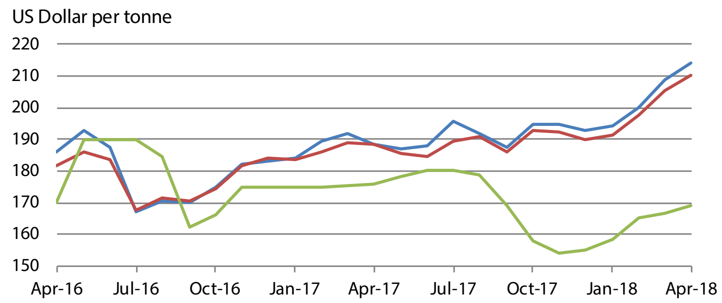
Source(s): Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) - WFP

For more information visit the FPMA website here

Export prices of wheat continued to increase supported by strong demand

In the exporting countries of the subregion, prices of wheat continued to strengthen amid strong demand, currency movements and trends in the international markets. In **Ukraine** and **the Russian Federation**, export prices of milling wheat increased slightly and reached levels more than 10 percent higher than those a year earlier. In these countries, domestic prices of wheat grain and wheat flour changed little in April. They were lower than a year earlier in the Russian Federation, while in Ukraine they were higher amidst high general inflation. In **Kazakhstan**, export prices of wheat strengthened but remained lower than a year earlier, while in the domestic market, prices of wheat flour were stable and around their levels in April last year, reflecting adequate market supplies. In the importing countries of the subregion, prices of wheat flour remained mostly unchanged in April on account of the good domestic supplies from the local harvests and cheaper imports from the key subregion supplier, Kazakhstan. In **Armenia** and **Kyrgyzstan**, prices of wheat flour remained virtually unchanged in April and down from a year earlier. Prices in **Tajikistan** weakened further in April and were well below their year-earlier levels reflecting the good output last year and reduced prices of imported wheat, also as a result of a decline in rail cargo tariffs from Uzbekistan and the re-opening of border crossings between the two countries. The Government's efforts to increase domestic milling capacity, thus reducing the share of imported wheat flour, also contributed to the lower level of prices. Prices of wheat flour declined in **Georgia** and were only slightly above their values a year earlier. In **Belarus** and **Azerbaijan**, prices remained unchanged in March and around their values last year. In most countries of the subregion, prices of potatoes, another key staple, increased seasonally in April to levels well above those a year earlier, due to the reduced subregional output in 2017. In **Belarus**, the main exporter of the subregion, prices of potatoes increased sharply in March and were more than 60 percent above their values a year earlier. Similarly, in **the Russian Federation**, prices increased significantly in April, while in **Armenia** and **Georgia** prices rose, but to a lesser extent. By contrast, prices of potatoes declined in **Kyrgyzstan** and **Tajikistan** in line with historical trends and reached levels well below those a year earlier.

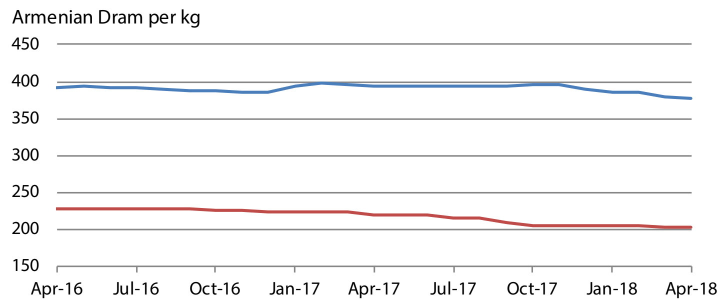
Export prices of milling wheat in CIS countries



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Russian Federation, Wheat (milling, offer, f.o.b., deep-sea ports)	214.25	2.5	10.3	13.7
Ukraine, Wheat (milling, offer, f.o.b.)	210.50	2.5	9.9	11.8
Kazakhstan, Wheat (milling, d.a.p. Saryagash station)	169.00	1.5	6.6	-4

Source(s): APK-Inform Agency

Retail prices of wheat flour in Armenia

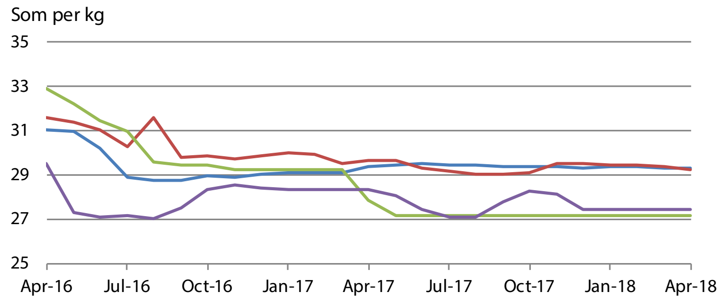


	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
National Average, Wheat (flour, high grade)	377.64	-0.4	-2	-4.1
National Average, Wheat (flour, first grade)	201.88	0	-1.1	-8.1

Source(s): National Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia

For more information visit the FPMA website here

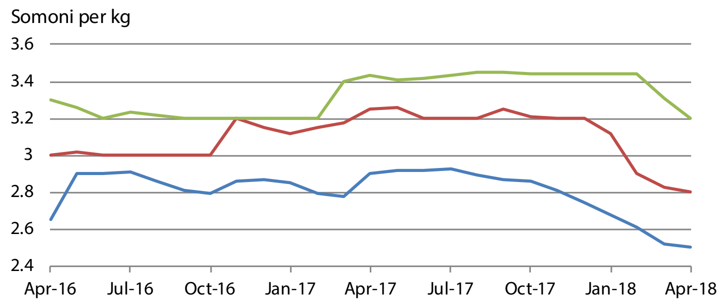
Retail prices of wheat flour in Kyrgyzstan



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Bishkek	29.30	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3
National Average	29.27	-0.3	-0.7	-1.4
Naryn	27.16	0	0	-2.5
Jalal-Abad	27.44	0	0	-3.1

Source(s): National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic

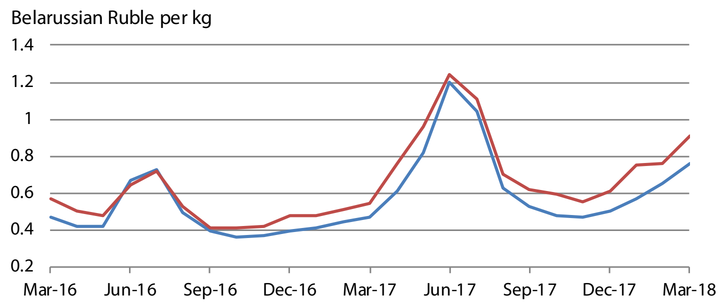
Retail prices of wheat flour in Tajikistan



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Khujand	2.50	-0.8	-6.7	-13.8
Kurgonteppa	2.80	-1.1	-10.3	-13.8
Khorugh	3.20	-3.3	-7	-6.7

Source(s): Statistical Agency under President of the Republic of Tajikistan

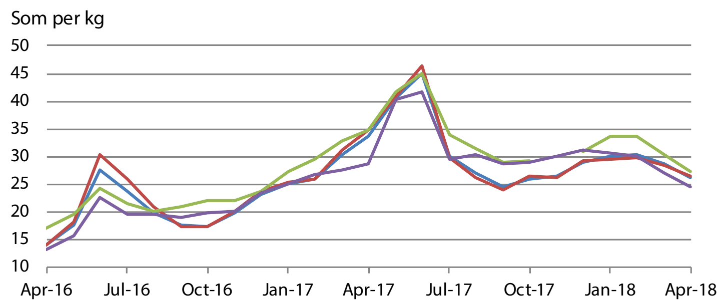
Retail prices of potatoes in Belarus



	Latest Price (Mar-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
National Average	0.76	16.9	52	61.7
Minsk	0.91	19.7	49.2	68.5

Source(s): National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus

Retail prices of potatoes in Kyrgyzstan



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
National Average	26.21	-8.3	-12.7	-22.1
Bishkek	26.40	-6.5	-10.4	-24.2
Osh	27.14	-10.9	-19.1	-21.6
Batken	24.43	-9.9	-20.2	-14.4

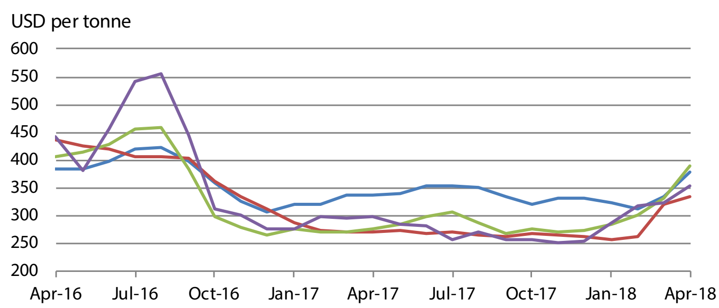
Source(s): National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic

For more information visit the FPMA website here

Prices of maize increased sharply in April

Despite the good 2017 output and imports, prices of white maize increased sharply in April and reached levels well above those a year earlier in most countries of the subregion. In general, seasonal upward pressure was exacerbated by higher purchasing prices from the milling industry and increased fuel costs. Trends in the international market also contributed to price gains throughout most of the subregion. The sharpest increase in April was recorded in **Honduras**, where prices spiked by about 20 percent in the capital city, Tegucigalpa, and were more than 40 percent higher year-on-year. The country recorded successive increases in fuel prices since the beginning of the year, which added to the previous increases in August and September last year. This, coupled with transport strikes in April, contributed to the upward pressure on prices. In **El Salvador**, prices of maize rose further in April, after the sharp increase in March, and were 30 percent higher than a year earlier. The main driver of the sharp increases of the past two months were higher purchasing prices from the milling industry. In **Nicaragua**, prices of maize increased by 10 percent and were one-quarter higher than in April last year. Also in **Guatemala**, seasonal increases were stronger than average, with higher fuel and transport costs contributing to the upward pressure. Market availabilities, however, remain adequate as a result of steady imports from Mexico and ongoing harvests in northern producing areas. In **Mexico**, the subregion's main producer, prices continued to strengthen seasonally in April ahead of the secondary season harvest, but remained lower than a year earlier. In the Caribbean, in **Haiti** and in **the Dominican Republic**, prices of domestically-produced maize meal remained generally stable and lower than in April last year. As opposed to the prices of maize, those of beans declined in most countries of the subregion. In **Honduras** and **Nicaragua**, prices of red beans declined with the main *apante* season harvest although they were about 10 percent higher year-on-year. In **El Salvador**, prices strengthened slightly but remained down from April last year. In **Guatemala**, prices of black beans declined with the second season supplies from the northern Department of Petén and from the eastern producing areas. In **Mexico**, prices of black beans remained unchanged or weakened further in April on account of the good supplies from the *spring-summer* harvest. In **Haiti**, prices of black beans remained mostly stable or weakened in April and were generally lower than a year earlier except in some markets of the north. In **the Dominican Republic**, retail prices of beans declined in April with improved supplies from the recently-completed harvests.

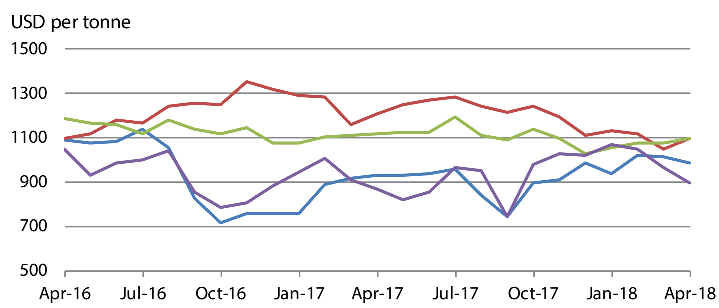
Wholesale prices of white maize in Central America



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Guatemala, Guatemala City	379.28	13.9	17.3	12.4
El Salvador, San Salvador	333.96	4.7	30	23
Honduras, Tegucigalpa	388.96	17.4	36.6	41
Nicaragua, Managua (oriental)	354.64	10	23.2	19.2

Source(s): Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación; Dirección General de Economía Agropecuaria, MAG; SIMPAH

Wholesale prices of beans in Central America



	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Honduras, Tegucigalpa, Beans (red)	989.34	-2.3	5.4	6.5
Guatemala, Guatemala City, Beans (black)	1097.80	4.6	-2.8	-9.1
El Salvador, San Salvador, Beans (red)	1096.26	2	3.9	-1.7
Nicaragua, Managua (oriental), Beans (red)	894.52	-7.5	-16.4	3.2

Source(s): SIMPAH; Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación; Dirección General de Economía Agropecuaria, MAG

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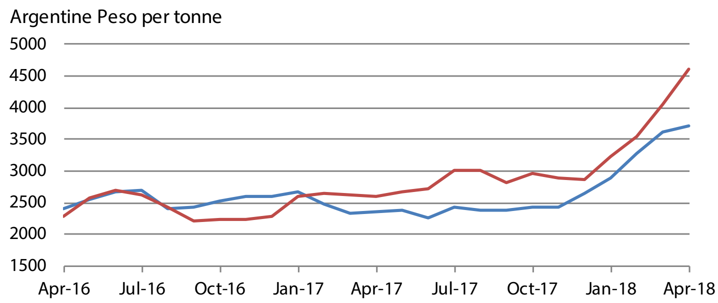
Prices of wheat and maize rose significantly in Argentina and Brazil

In most countries of the subregion, prices of wheat grain and wheat flour remained relatively stable in April, with the notable exceptions of Argentina and Brazil. In **Argentina**, seasonal upward pressure, with planting of the 2018 crop about to start, was exacerbated by strong demand sustained by a sliding currency and concerns about dry conditions. In **Brazil**, the reduced 2017 harvest and costlier imports compounded seasonal trends. In major importers, **Colombia**, **Ecuador** and **Peru**, prices of wheat flour remained relatively stable, while they increased in **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)**, although remaining around their levels in April last year. In **Chile**, which normally imports around half of its consumption requirements, prices of wheat grain remained also relatively stable in April, reflecting large imported volumes in 2017 and early 2018, particularly from Argentina. In the subregion, prices of yellow maize strengthened further in key producers and exporters, Argentina and Brazil. In **Argentina**, prices of maize rose in April to levels nearly 60 percent above those a year earlier, underpinned by strong demand and an anticipated decline in this year's output. In **Brazil**, although harvesting of the first season crop is ongoing, prices increased due to expectations of a reduced output, strong demand and because of lower main season crop plantings, also affected by dry weather in some areas. Elsewhere in the subregion, prices declined seasonally in **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)** with the harvest of the main *summer* crops and in **Ecuador**. In both countries, prices were generally below their year-earlier levels. Prices of yellow maize declined seasonally also in **Chile**. Reversely, in **Peru**, prices increased in line with seasonal trends, although they remained well below their year-earlier levels, and in **Colombia**. In most countries of the subregion, prices of staple rice continued to decline in April with the 2018 harvests and were, in general, lower than a year earlier. Prices weakened further in **Brazil** to levels around 20 percent below the relatively high values in April last year. Similarly, in **Ecuador**, prices declined or remained stable and were lower than a year earlier. In **Peru**, prices decreased slightly and were some 20 percent lower than in April last year, the same as the national average retail prices in **Colombia**. In **Bolivia (Plurinational State of)**, prices weakened or remained relatively stable and were around or slightly below their levels a year earlier. Forecasts for a third successive contraction of production this year limited the decline in prices.

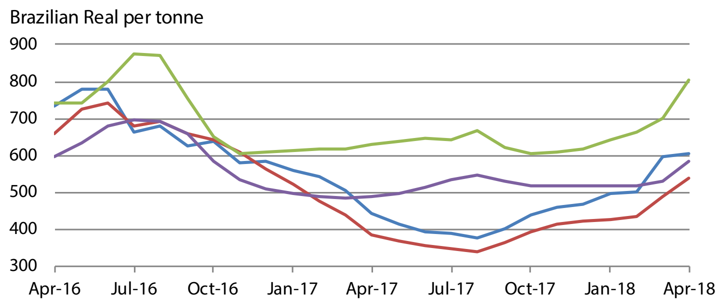
Wholesale prices of yellow maize and wheat in Argentina



Source(s): Bolsa de Cereales

	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
Rosario, Maize (yellow)	3723.97	3.3	28.7	58.3
Buenos Aires, Wheat	4601.64	13.6	42.2	76.8

Wholesale prices of yellow maize and wheat in Brazil



Source(s): Agrolink

	Latest Price (Apr-18)	Percent Change 1M	3M	1Y
São Paulo, Maize (yellow)	603.45	1	21.7	36.9
National Average, Maize (yellow)	537.94	10.2	26	39.4
São Paulo, Wheat	802.83	14.8	24.6	27.6
National Average, Wheat	585.12	10.7	12.9	20.1

For more information visit the FPMA website here

This bulletin is prepared by the **Food Price Monitoring and Analysis (FPMA)** Team of the Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS) in the Trade and Markets Division of FAO. It contains latest information and analysis on domestic prices of basic foods mainly in developing countries, complementing FAO analysis on international markets. It provides early warning on high food prices at country level that may negatively affect food security.

This report is based on information available up to early May 2018.

All the data used in the analysis can be found in the **FPMA Tool** at: www.fao.org/giews/food-prices/tool/public/index.html#/home

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

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