UN WFP
World Food Programme

AFGHANISTAN

Monthly Market Report

Issue 52: September 2024

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **The economy of Afghanistan is experiencing a deflationary period which is slowing the economic growth.** Afghanistan has faced multiple shocks over the past few years, including the COVID-19 pandemic, the government transition in August 2021, and a series of natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, droughts, and the influx of Afghan refugees and returnees from neighbouring countries. While the continued repatriation of thousands of Afghans from neighbouring countries has increased the need for assistance, natural and climate shocks have also caused widespread displacement and loss of livelihoods. Despite a decrease in market prices due to deflation, the appreciation of the Afghani, and a drop in global food prices, unemployment remains high. Reduced activity in the agriculture and industry sectors continues to strain the livelihoods of vulnerable households.

- **The ongoing deflation in the country has significantly resulted in declining food prices compared to last year.** The inflation rate in Afghanistan peaked at 18.3% in July 2022, following the political changes in August 2021, primarily due to the significant depreciation of the Afghani currency. However, this trend reversed, leading to deflation, which reached -10.2% in January 2024 and eased to -6.7% in August 2024. Similarly, food inflation decreased sharply from +26% in June 2022 to -15.1% in January 2024, and -11.5% in August 2024. The current deflationary trend, which began in April 2023 is largely due to various factors such as the adverse effects of the opium ban, an improved food supply, a reduction in the money supply, an overall increase in remittances, and the appreciation of the Afghani. Despite improvements, the overall economic situation remains precarious, with many households still struggling to afford basic needs due to lack of income.

- **The average monthly exchange rate between the Afghani and the USD is hovering around AFN 70-72 per USD since March 2024.** Following a sharp rise to AFN 105 per USD in January 2022, the Afghani steadily appreciated against the USD throughout 2023 and maintained a stable range during the year 2024. This exchange rate stability and reduced volatility can be attributed to several key factors, including consistent UN dollar cash shipments and remittance inflows, which provide a steady supply of foreign currencies. Additionally, the Central Bank of Afghanistan's use of monetary policy tools, increased export volumes, and measures to prevent dollar smuggling abroad have played a crucial role in maintaining the Afghani's stability.

- **In September 2024, the national average price of the WFP's in-kind food basket was AFN 5,293, showing a 0.7% increase from the previous month.** However, since July 2022, the price of the WFPs' in-kind food basket is showing a declining trend, driven by lower prices for major food items, the appreciation of the Afghani, reduced inflation rates, and a decrease in global food prices. The price of the food basket varies across provinces; the cheapest market for food items in September 2024 was Kunduz with the food basket priced at AFN 4,746, whereas Nuristan remains as the most expensive market with the same food basked priced at AFN 6,238.

- **National average wheat flour and cooking oil prices increased compared to last month but still remain below the May 2020 baseline.** The price of wheat flour increased by 1.5%, in parallel with the global rise in wheat prices due to unfavourable weather in major exporting regions. Currently, wheat flour is priced at AFN 31.2 per kilogram, which is still down by 17 points from its May 2020 index. In contrast, domestic cooking oil prices in Afghanistan remain stable throughout 2024, with a slight 1% increase from last month. Globally, the FAO Vegetable Oil Price Index rose by 4.6% in September, driven by supply concerns in palm, sunflower, and rapeseed oils due to reduced output in major exporting countries.

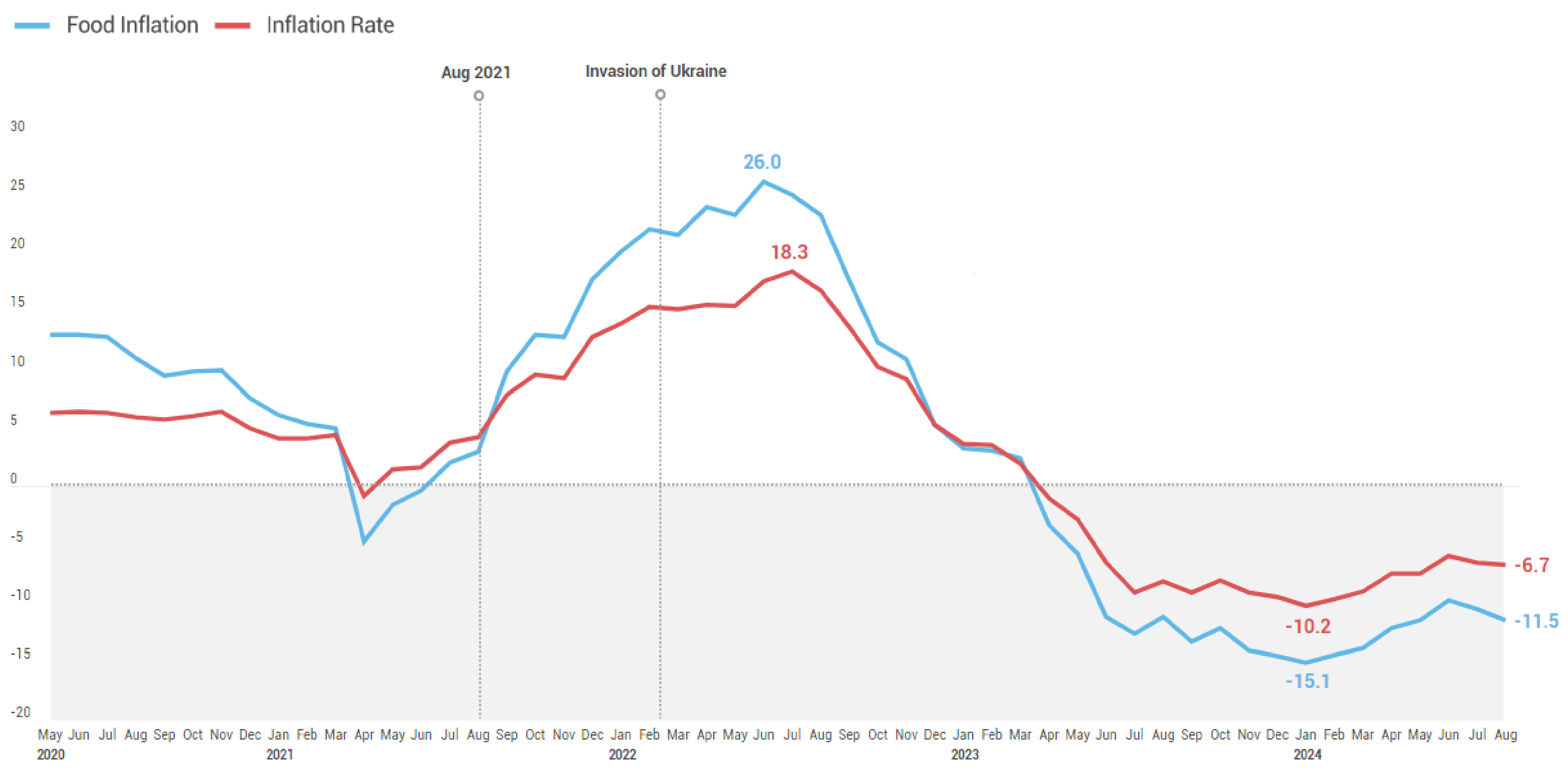
- **The nominal Terms of Trade (ToT) for casual labour has slightly deteriorated by 3.4% compared to last month** due to a 2.5% increase in the average price of wheat grain. Whereas the real ToT is showing a minor 0.2% improvement due to a 3.8% increase in the number of workdays availability per week. Meanwhile, the pastoralists (livestock) ToT has also deteriorated by 2.4% compared to last month with the changes in the price of wheat grain. The national average expected monthly income for full-time casual labour workers (AFN 321 per day), while also considering the availability of workdays (2.5 days per week) is AFN 3,497, which can only afford 66% of the whole WFP's in-kind food basket (AFN 5,293).

AFGHANISTAN MACROECONOMIC OVERVIEW

Inflation and Exchange Rate Trend

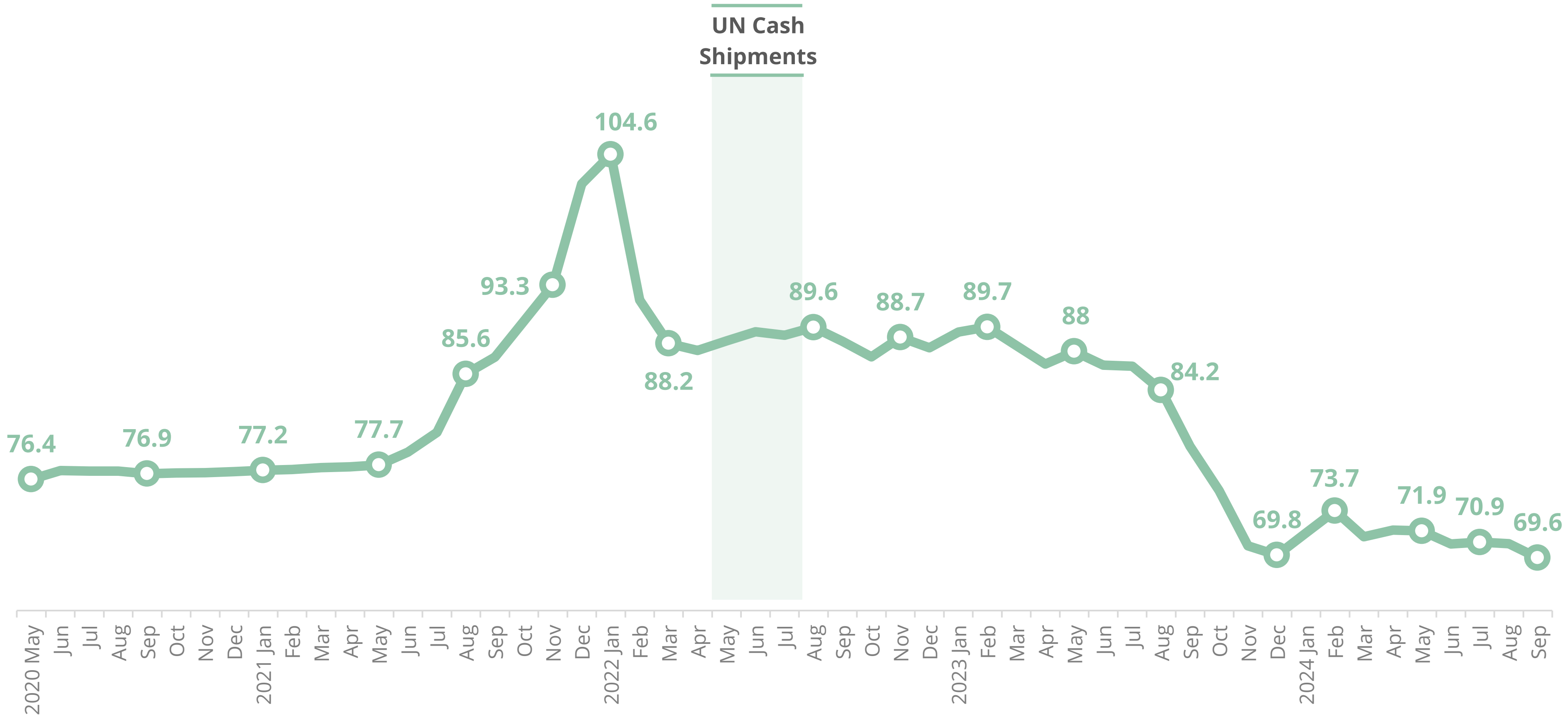
Change in Food Inflation and Head-Line Inflation

MAY 2020 - AUG 2024



Change in Foreign Exchange Rate (AFN/USD)

MAY 2020 - SEP 2024



A gradual decline in food prices due to a continues deflation

With the appreciation of the Afghani currency, the headline inflation rate in August 2024 declined further to -6.7%, following an upward trend from January to June 2024. Food inflation also dropped to -11.5%. Inflation had been on a downward trajectory from its peak in July 2022 driven by decreased global food prices and a significant appreciation of the Afghani against the USD and other foreign currencies. The deflation rate for main food items such as bread & cereals, meat, oils and fats, fresh and dried fruits, vegetables and sugar were -18.0%, -4.6%, -13.9%, -13.0%, 11.1% and -8.3%, respectively during the month of August 2024. Similarly, the deflation rate for non-food items were -1.8%. (Data source: NSIA CPI Data)

"A deflationary period may slow economic growth, but it has a profound impact on livelihoods by significantly reducing market prices, easing the cost of essential goods and services for consumers."

AFN slightly appreciating against USD during September 2024

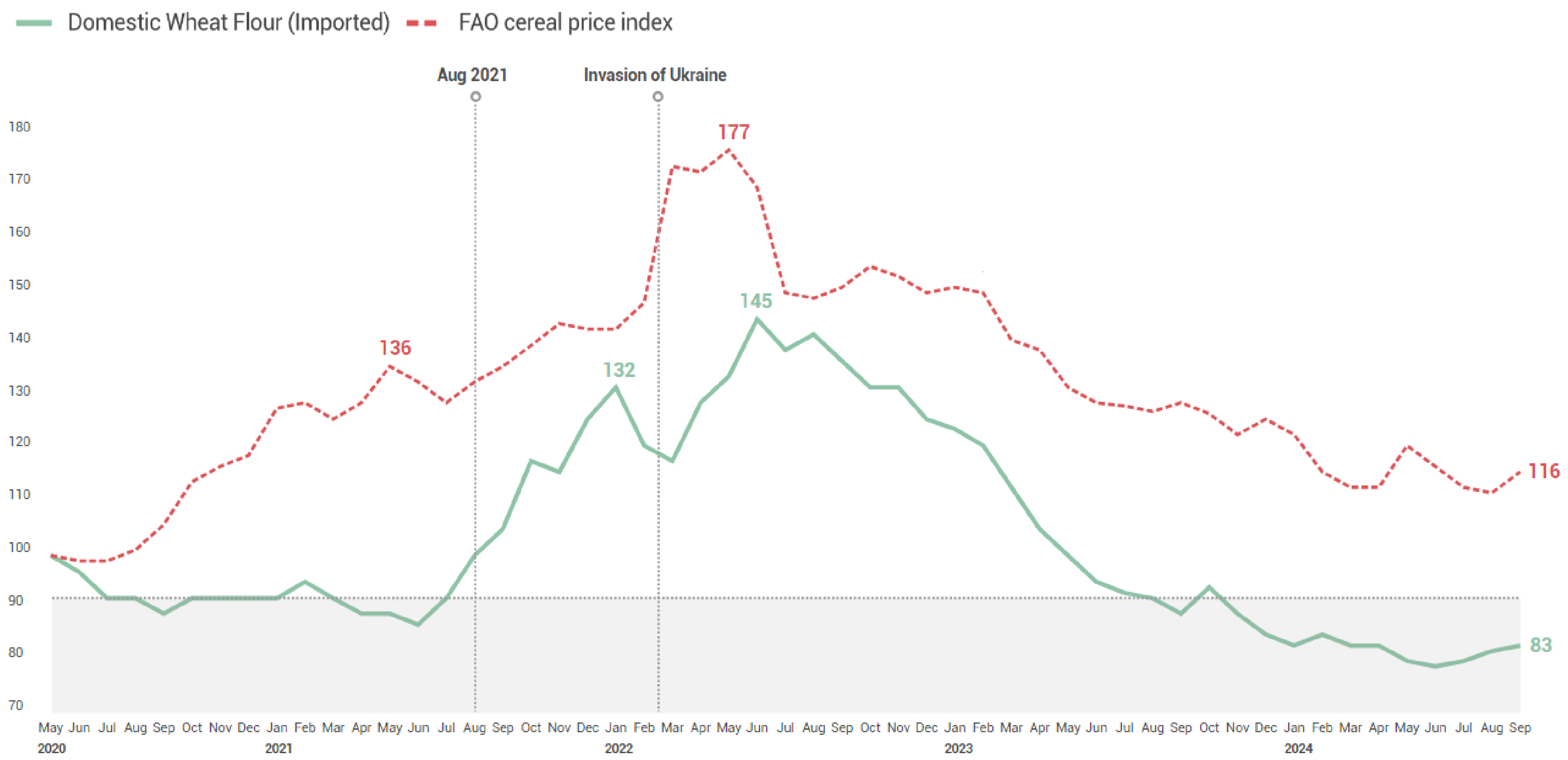
In September 2024, the national average exchange rate between the Afghani (AFN) and the US dollar (USD) was AFN 69.6/USD, marking a 1.7% appreciation compared to the previous month and a significant 12% appreciation year-on-year. After peaking at AFN 104.6/USD in January 2022, the Afghani steadily appreciated throughout 2023 and maintained a range of AFN 70-74/USD since November 2023. The recorded exchange rate during September 2024 is 8% lower than the pre-COVID period and 12% lower than the rate in June 2021 which was during the previous government and highlights a notable strengthening of the Afghani in comparison to both periods. "The Afghani's stability and reduced exchange rate volatility can be attributed to several key factors: consistent UN dollar cash shipments, remittance inflows from Afghans abroad, control measures by the Central Bank of Afghanistan, increased export volumes, and measures by the DFA to curb dollar smuggling."

GLOBAL TRENDS

Wheat Flour and Oil Prices (Global Prices vs Domestic Prices)

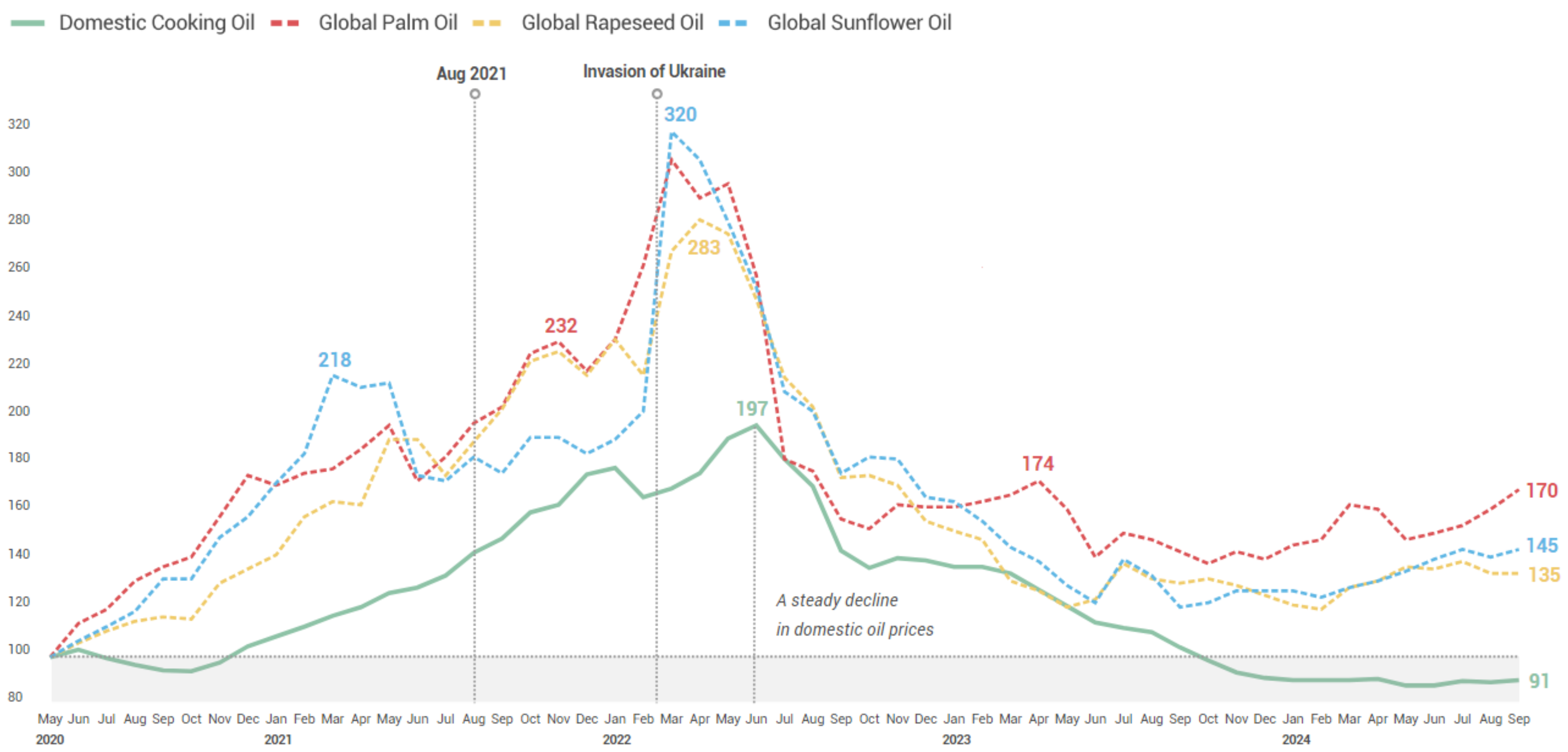
Percentage Change in Domestic Wheat Flour Prices and FAO Cereal Price Index

MAY 2020 - SEP 2024



Percentage Change in Domestic Oil Prices and Global Oil Prices

MAY 2020 - SEP 2024



The FAO Cereal Price Index is on a gradual decline after its peak in May 2022. However, as of September 2024, it remains elevated by 16 points compared to the baseline (May 2020). In September 2024, the FAO Cereal Price Index was up by 3.3 points (3.0 percent) from August but still 12.8 points (10.2 percent) below its September 2023 value. “After declining for three consecutive months, global wheat prices increased in September, largely due to concerns over unfavourable weather conditions in some key exporters. Excessively wet conditions in Canada and the European Union caused harvest delays in the former and led to a sizeable cut to the production forecast for the latter. However, competitively-priced supplies from the Black Sea region capped the increase in prices.” (FAO – 04/10/2024)

The national average price of imported wheat flour is AFN 31.2 per kilogram. Using May 2020 as the base for the price index, wheat flour prices have declined by 62 points since their peak in June 2022, falling to 17 points below the May 2020 index. Compared to the previous month, the national average price of wheat flour have seen a slight increase of 1.5%. However, it remains 7% lower than the same period last year and 22% below the 4-year average.

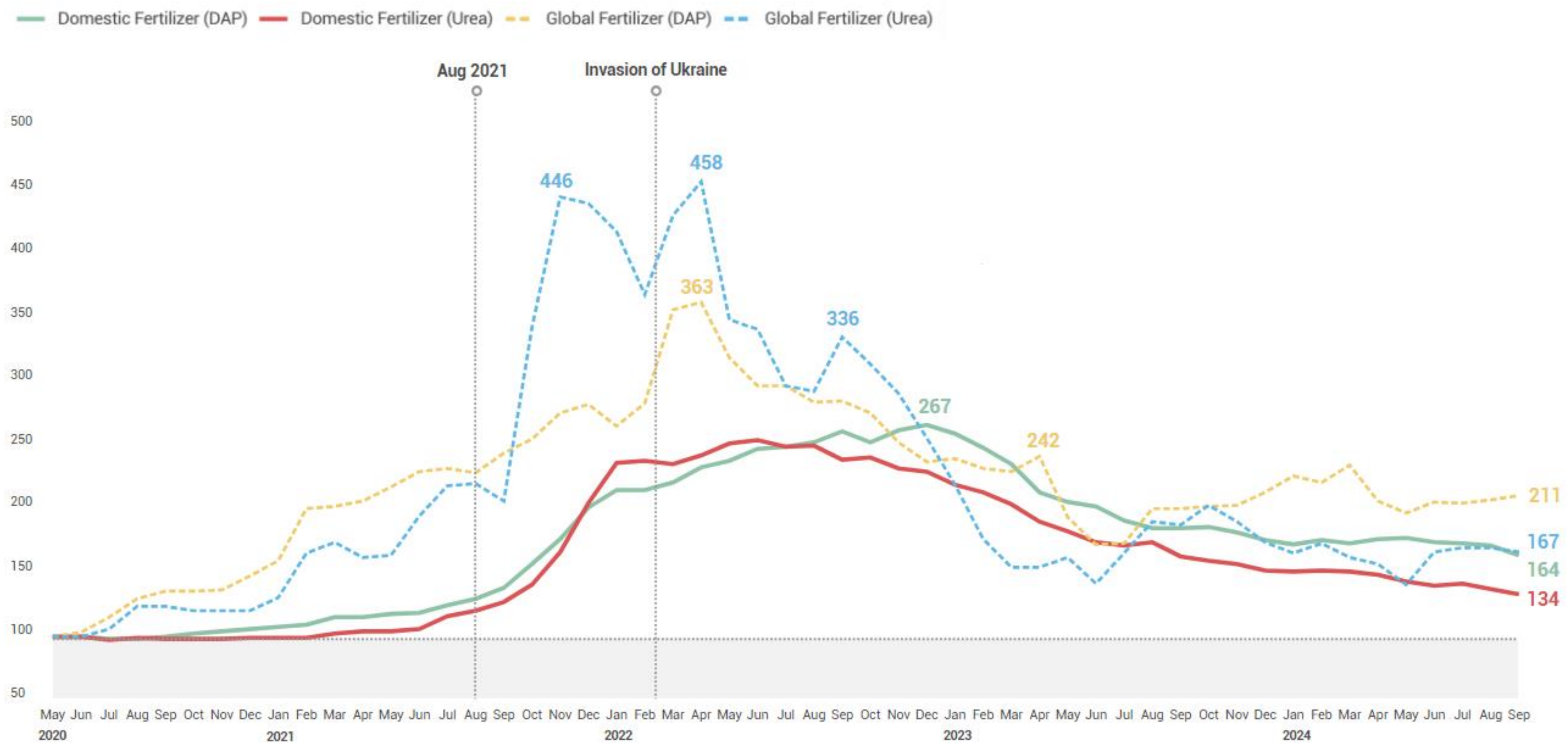
In September 2024, the FAO Vegetable Oil Price Index was up by 6.2 points (4.6 percent) from August and reaching its highest level since early 2023. “The continued rise of the price index was driven by higher quotations across palm, sunflower and rapeseed oils. International palm oil prices rose for the fourth consecutive month in September, underpinned mainly by concerns over lower-than-expected production that coincided with anticipated seasonal output declines in major Southeast Asian producing countries. As for sunflower and rapeseed oils, the marginal price recoveries in September were supported by a tightening supply outlook, following reduced outputs of respective oilseeds in the 2024/25 season.” (FAO – 04/10/2024)

Domestic cooking oil prices have remained stable throughout 2024. Using May 2020 as the base for price index, the current average price for cooking oil stands at 91 points. It shows a gradual decline since reaching its peak in June 2022 (97 points above the index). The current price of cooking oil is AFN 94/Kg which is higher by 1.0% compared to last month and by 22% compared to the pre–Covid period but significantly lower than same time last year by 13%.

GLOBAL TRENDS

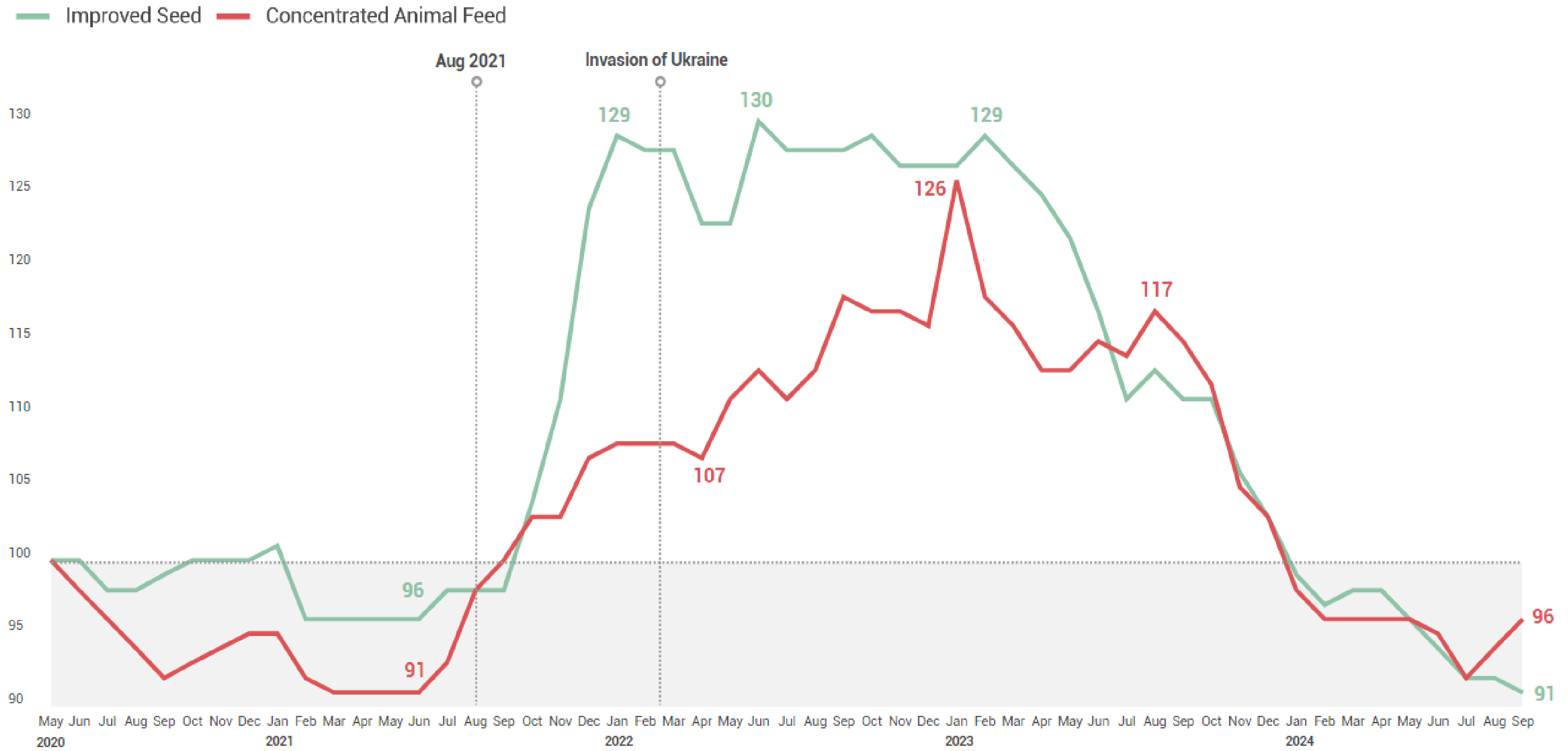
Percent Change in Domestic and Global Fertilizer Prices

MAY 2020 - SEP 2024



Percent Change in Improved Seed and Animal Feed

MAY 2020 - SEP 2024



Fertilizer prices are on a declining trend after their peak in 2022: International fertilizer prices have experienced a substantial decline, dropping by more than 50 percent from their peak in April 2022. Factors such as the impact of Covid-19, supply chain disruptions, and the Russian invasion of Ukraine caused a significant surge in prices. Global fertilizer market is heavily influenced by key players such as China, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Russia, and the USA, which collectively control 90% of global DAP imports. Russia's invasion of Ukraine disrupted global fertilizer markets, causing price spikes and fears of agricultural impacts, but since then, prices have stabilized, and Russia managed to increase fertilizer exports in 2023. While fertilizer prices have decreased in 2024 compared to previous years, the dominance of major exporting countries and slow adoption of green alternatives leave import-dependent nations vulnerable to future trade shocks.

DAP Fertilizer: The national average price of a 50-kg bag of DAP in September 2024 was recorded at AFN 3,923, slightly decreased by 4.5% compared to last month and 12% lower than last year, while 38% higher compared to the month of June 2021. With May 2020 as the base for the price index, the current average price index for DAP stands at 164 points. Month-on-month DAP prices significantly decreased by 21% in Ghor, 19% in Badghis, and 16% in Sari Pul. The main reason for change in provincial prices is due to the availability of different varieties of imported fertilizers in the market, creating alterations in prices.

Urea Fertilizer: In September 2024, the average price of a 50-kg bag of Urea was AFN 1,599, which is 3.1% lower than the prices observed in the previous month. (Higher by 34 points compared to the May 2020 index). The price was 18% lower than the same period last year, but 25% higher compared to the month of June 2021. Compared to the previous month, the price significantly increased in Bamyan by 19%, while it decreased in Faryab by 13%, Sari Pul by 11%, and by 10% each in Ghazni, Khost and Jawzjan.

Improved Seed: The national average price of Improved Seed in September 2024 was AFN 1,786 per 50-kg bag, showing a 0.3% month-on-month decrease and a significant 18% decline compared to the same period last year. (Prices are lower by 9 points, with May 2020 as the base for the price index). Compared to last month, prices increased in Hirat and Farah by 3% each and by 2% in Khost. Whereas it decreased by 7% in Takhar, 4% in Nangarhar, and by 3% in Jawzjan.

Concentrated Animal Feed: The price of 100-kg bag Animal Feed was AFN 2,732 in September 2024, which shows a slight increase of 2.4 percent compared to August 2024. (With May 2020 as the base for the price index, it has fallen by 30 points from its peak in Jan 2023). Compared to last month, it has significantly increased in Badghis by 30%, Panjshir and Badakhshan by 23% each, Parwan and Kapisa by 21% each and 10% in Kunduz. Whereas it decreased by 15% each in Faryab and Sari Pul and by 11% in Takhar.

NATIONAL PRICE UPDATE

Monthly Price Changes and Trend Analysis : Food Commodities

ITEMS	This Month	Last Month (%)	Last year (%)	Pre– Covid time (%)	June 2021 (%)	4 Years Average
Exchange Rate (AFN/USD)	69.6	-1.7%	-12%	-8%	-12%	-16%
Wheat Grain (AFN/Kg)	24	2.5%	-17%	-4%	-19%	-29%
Wheat Flour - High price (AFN/Kg)	31	1.5%	-7%	-2%	-7%	-22%
Wheat Flour - Low price (AFN/Kg)	27	1.3%	-12%	-7%	-12%	-26%
Rice - High Price - "Palawi" (AFN/Kg)	92	-1.2%	-18%	14%	4%	-11%
Rice - Low Price - "Sholae" (AFN/Kg)	59	-0.8%	-13%	43%	18%	3%
Cooking Oil (AFN/Liter)	94	1.0%	-13%	22%	-30%	-26%
Pulses (AFN/Kg)	104	-1.3%	-9%	43%	12%	1%
Sugar (AFN/Kg)	59	-5.2%	-21%	42%	17%	-5%
Bread (AFN/Kg)	58	-0.7%	-10%		12%	-2%
Salt (AFN/Kg)	18	1.7%	12%	56%	37%	23%
Tomato (AFN/Kg)	20	-8.6%	7%		-22%	-18%
Potato (AFN/Kg)	23	3.1%	-18%		10%	-9%
Onion (AFN/Kg)	22	7.0%	41%		32%	14%

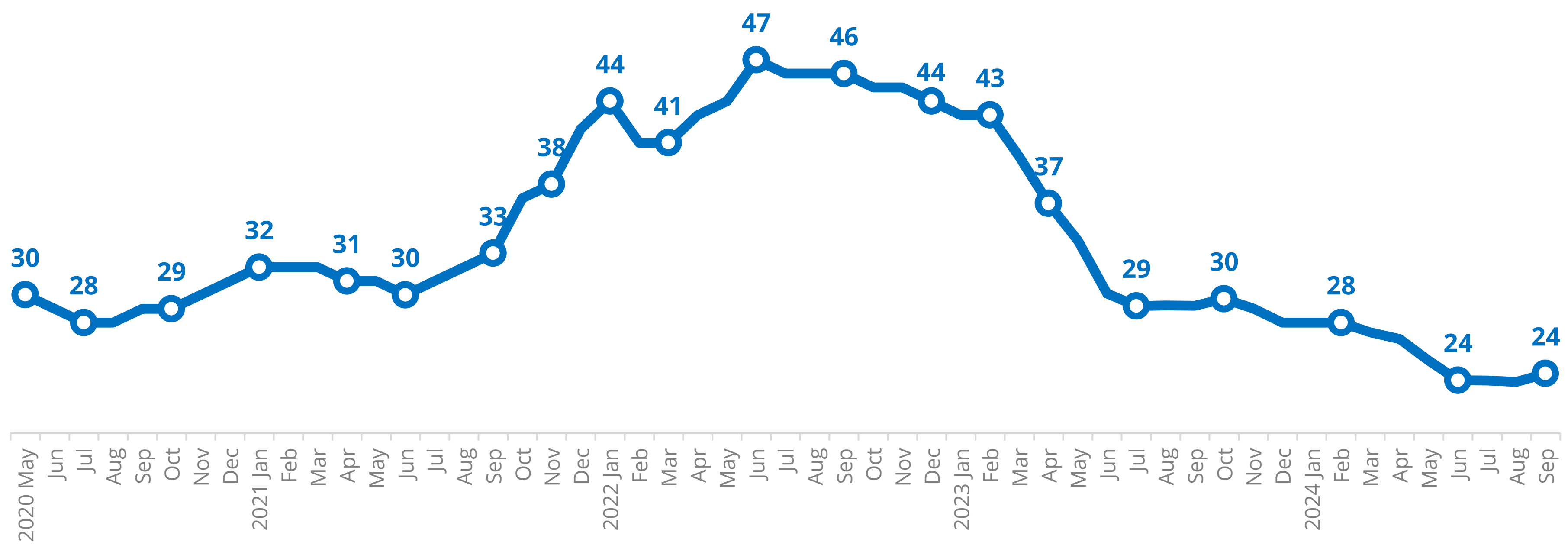
The month-on-month national average prices of wheat grain, wheat flour (high price and low price) cooking oil, salt, potato and onion has slightly increased whereas the rest of the food items has experienced a slight decrease in prices, with main changes in wheat grain (2.5%), onion (7%), sugar (-5.2%) and tomato (-8.6%). With the appreciation of Afghani against USD and other foreign currencies, the overall food prices are showing a significant decline compared to last year, except salt, tomato and onion prices which are still significantly higher than the prices during the same time last year. While the current prices of food items (excluding wheat grain and wheat flours) are still significantly higher compared to the prices during the pre-Covid period. Similarly, except for wheat grain, wheat flours, cooking oil and tomato, the average prices for all other food commodities are significantly higher compared to the month of June 2021 (before the takeover of the country by the DFA).

NATIONAL PRICE UPDATE

Monthly Price Changes in Wheat Grain and Wheat Flour

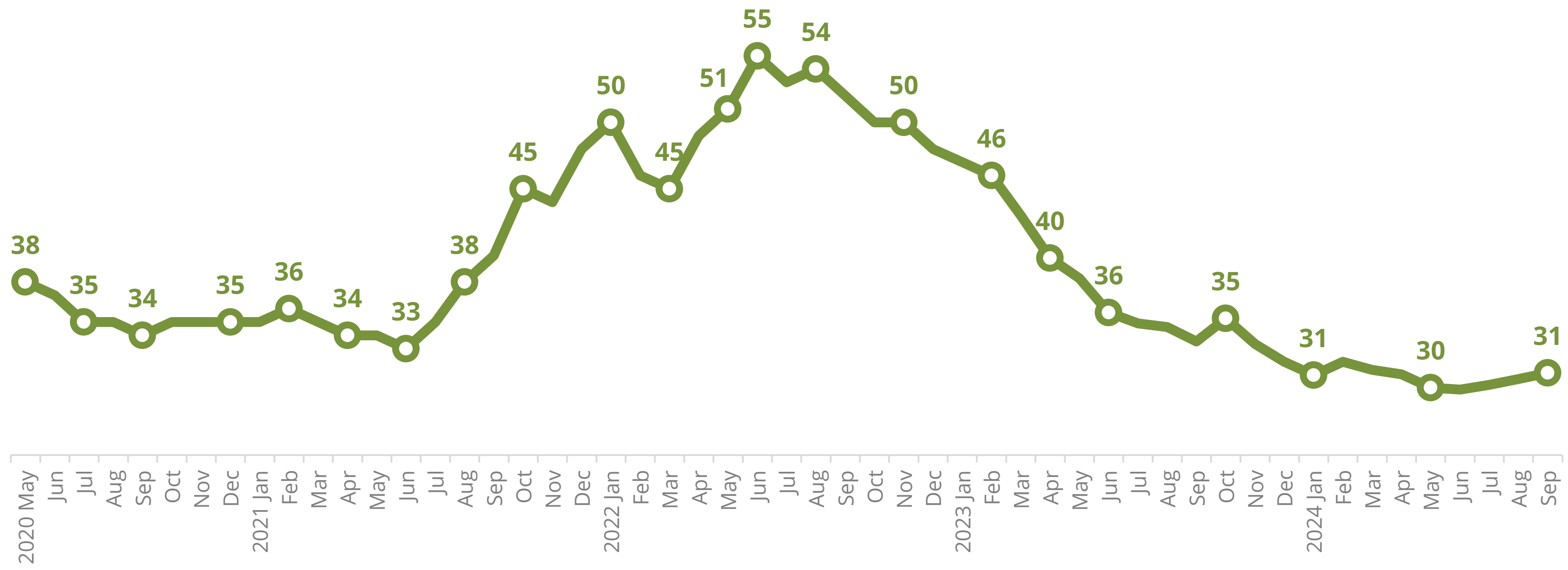
Price of Wheat Grain in AFN/Kg

MAY 2020 - SEP 2024



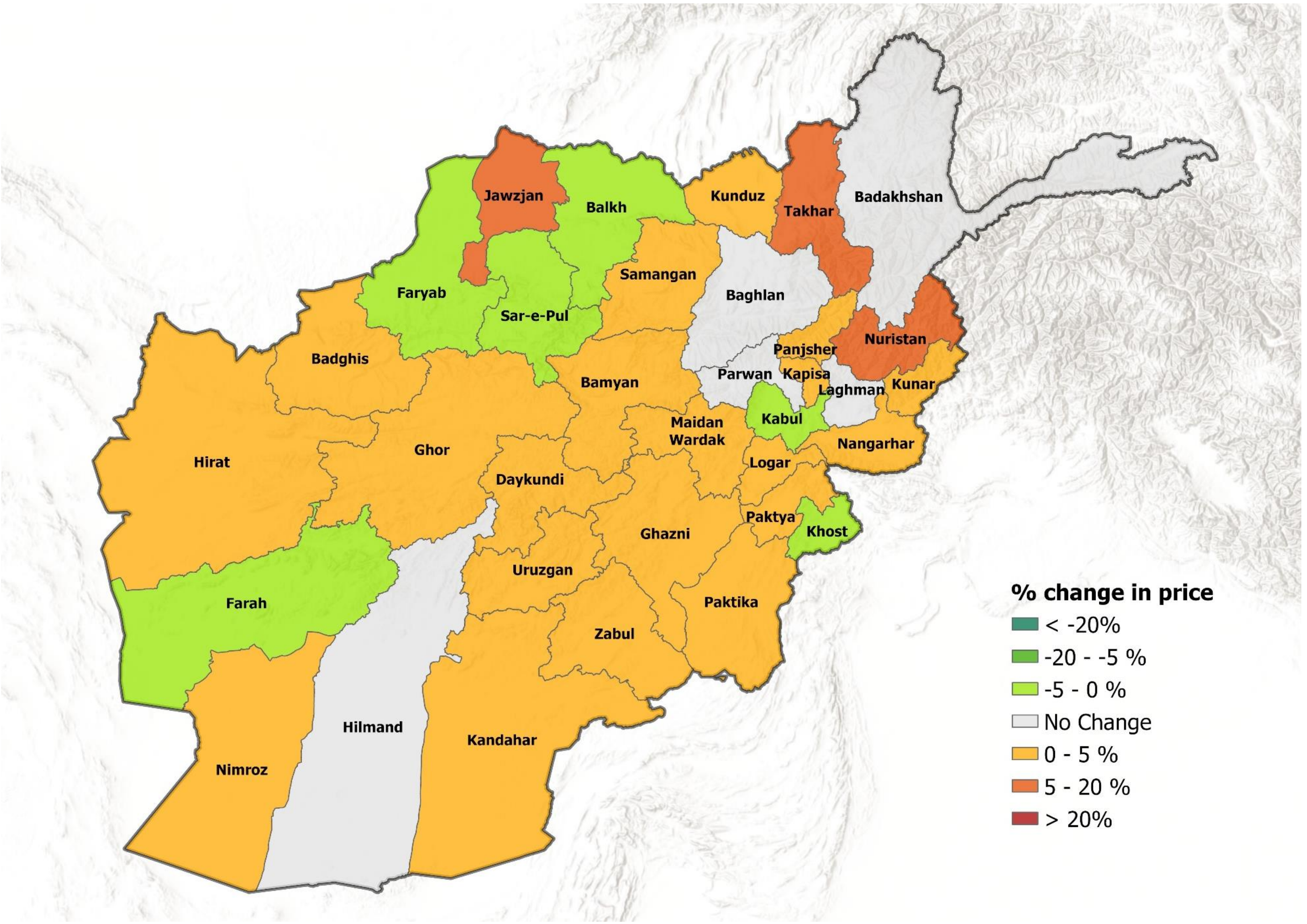
Price of Wheat Flour (Imported) in AFN/Kg

MAY 2020 - SEP 2024



Percentage of Changes in Price of Wheat Flour by Province

Last month (%)



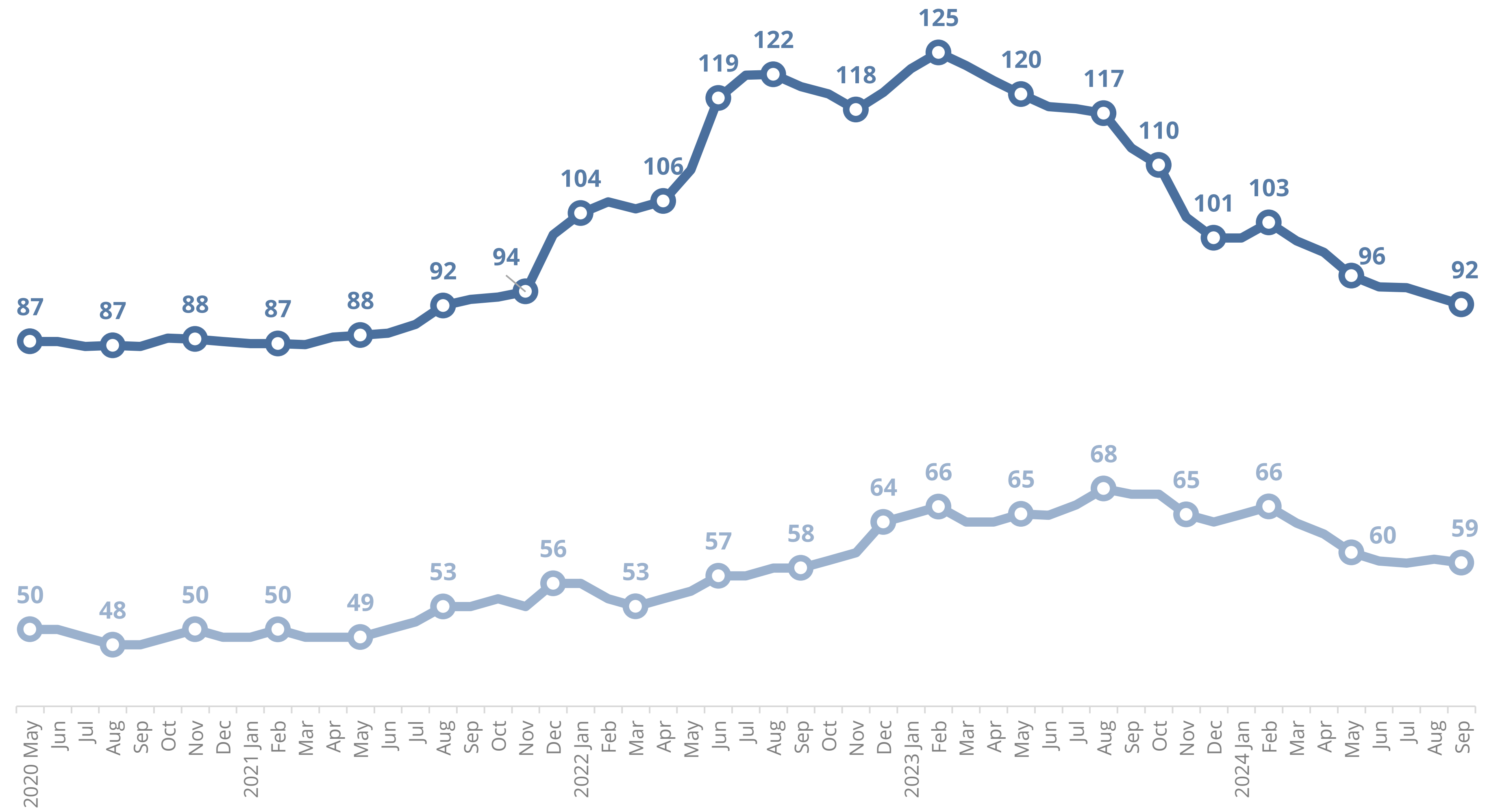
NATIONAL PRICE UPDATE

Monthly Price Changes in Rice

Price of Rice in AFN/Kg

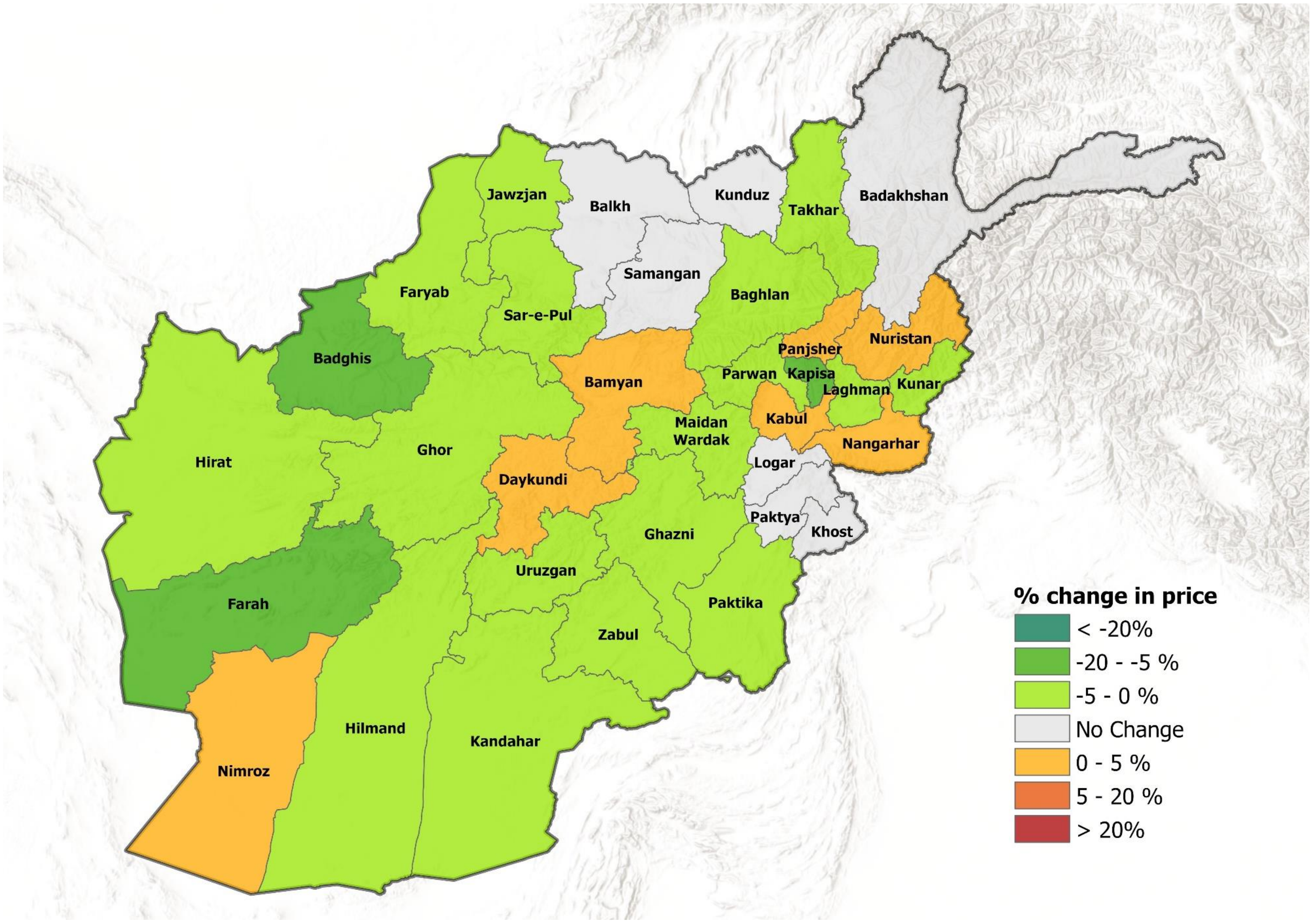
High Price (Palawi) & Low Price (Sholae)

MAY 2020 - SEP 2024



Percentage of Changes in Price of Palawi Rice by Province

Last month (%)

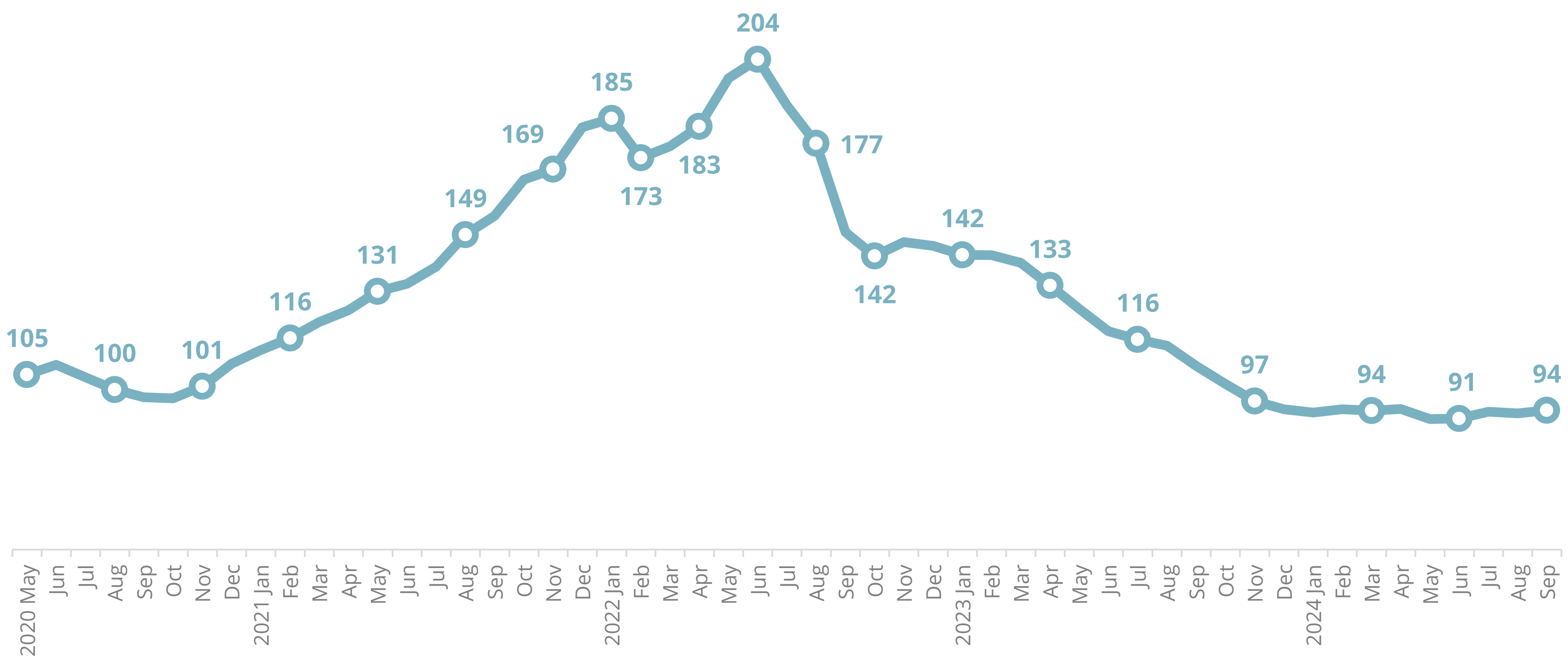


NATIONAL PRICE UPDATE

Monthly Price Changes in Cooking Oil

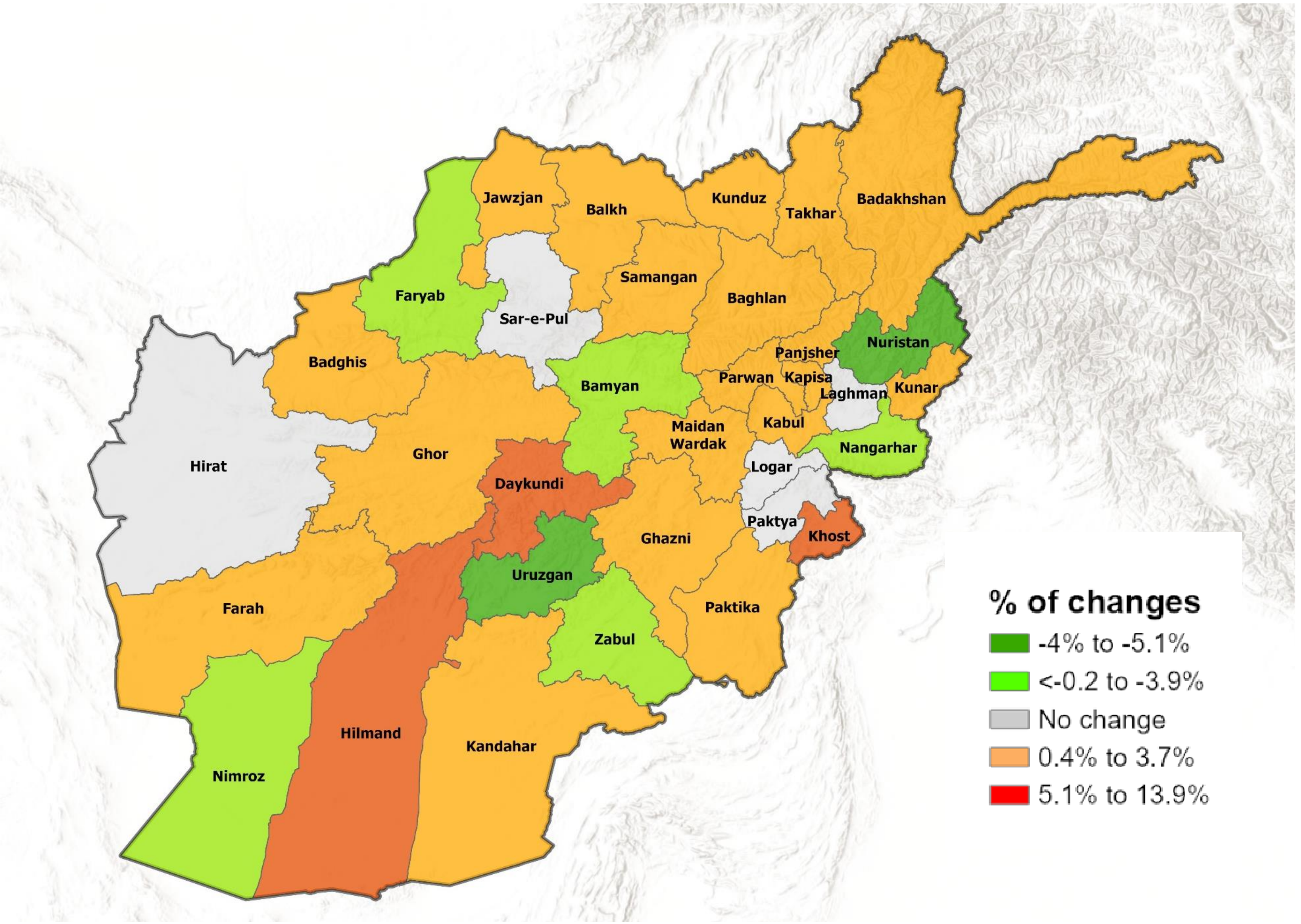
Price of Cooking Oil in AFN/Kg

MAY 2020 - SEP 2024



Percentage of Changes in Price of Cooking Oil by Province

Last month (%)



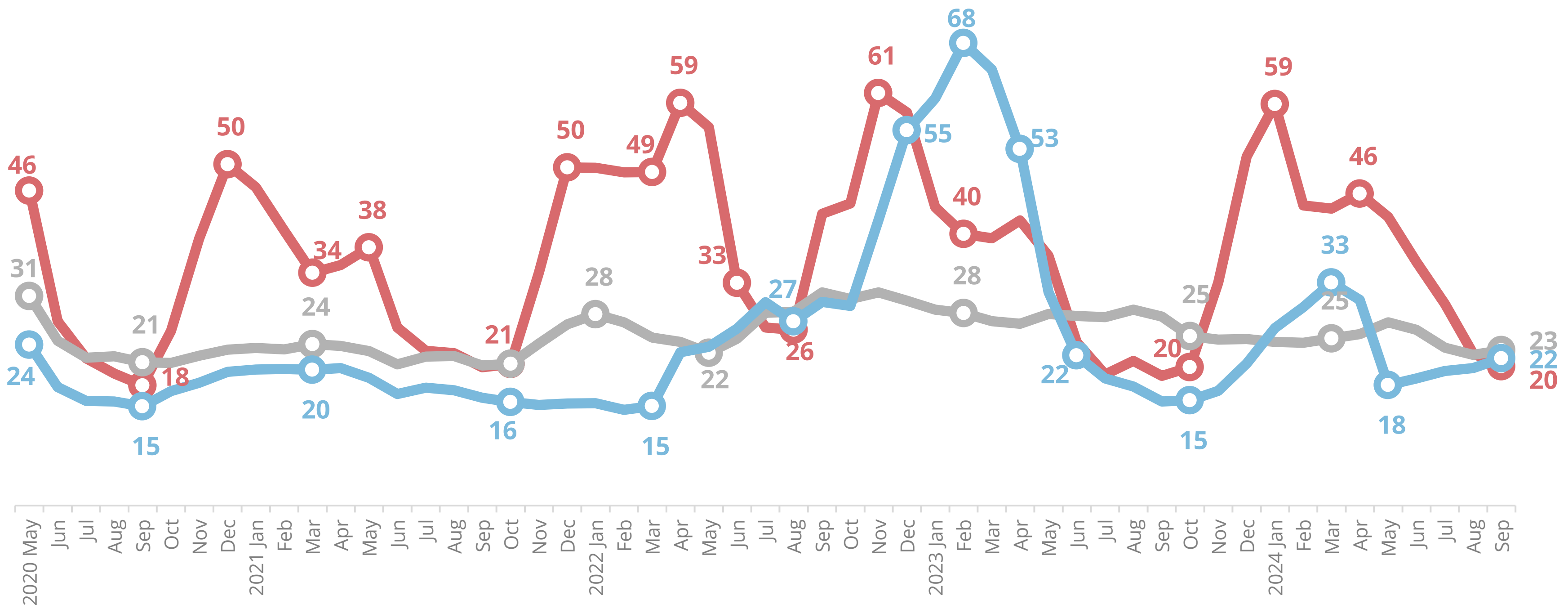
NATIONAL PRICE UPDATE

Monthly Price Changes in Vegetable Items

Price of Vegetable Items in AFN/Kg

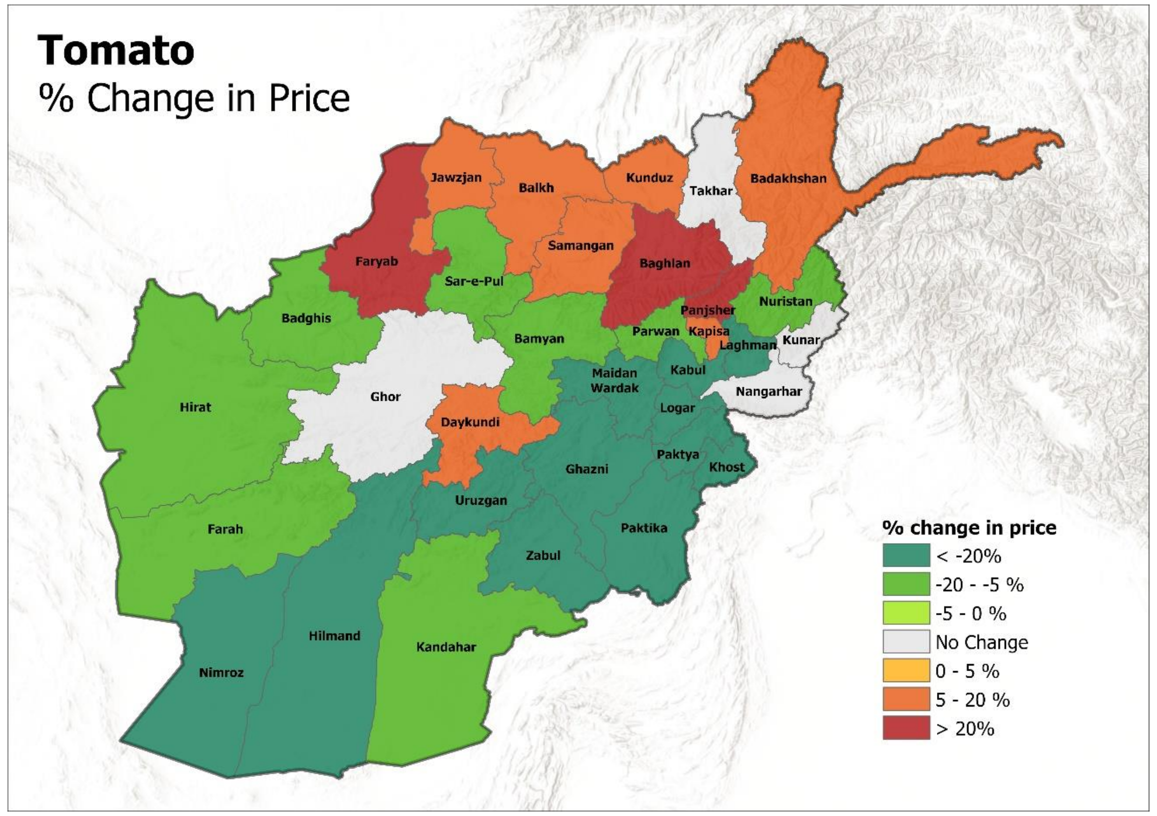
Tomato, **Potato** and **Onion**

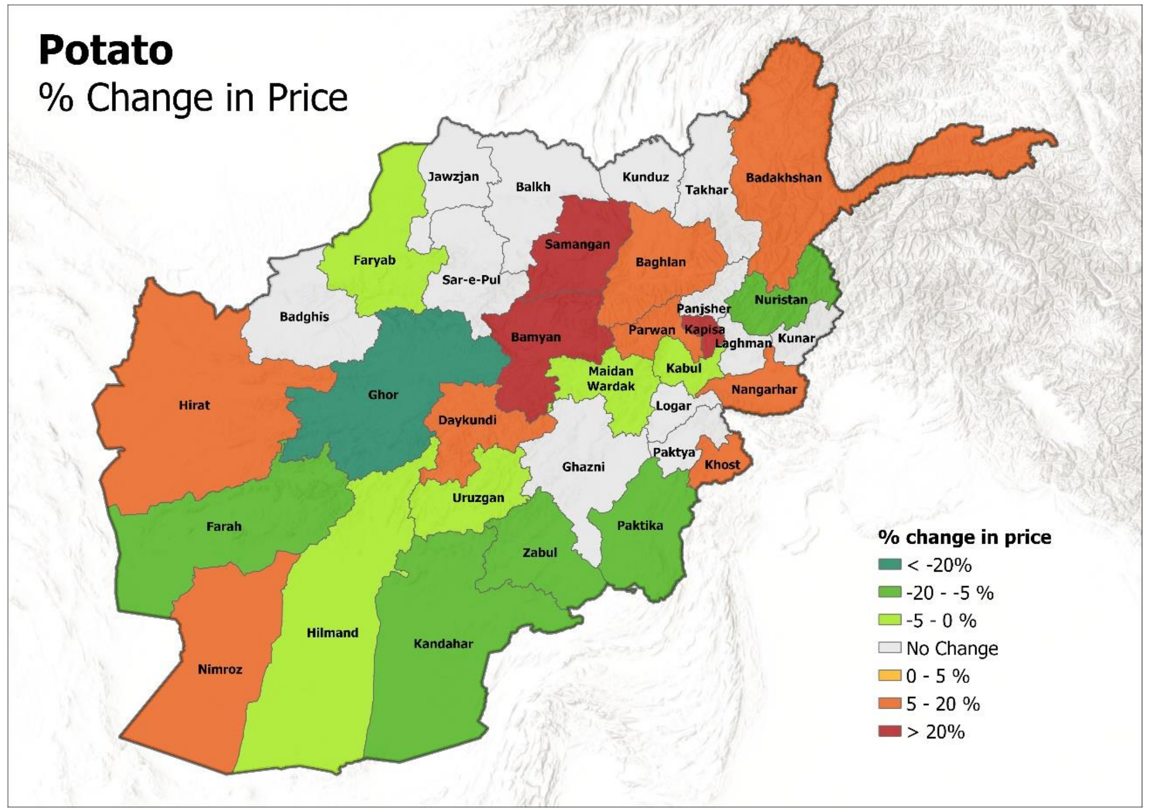
MAY 2020 - SEP 2024

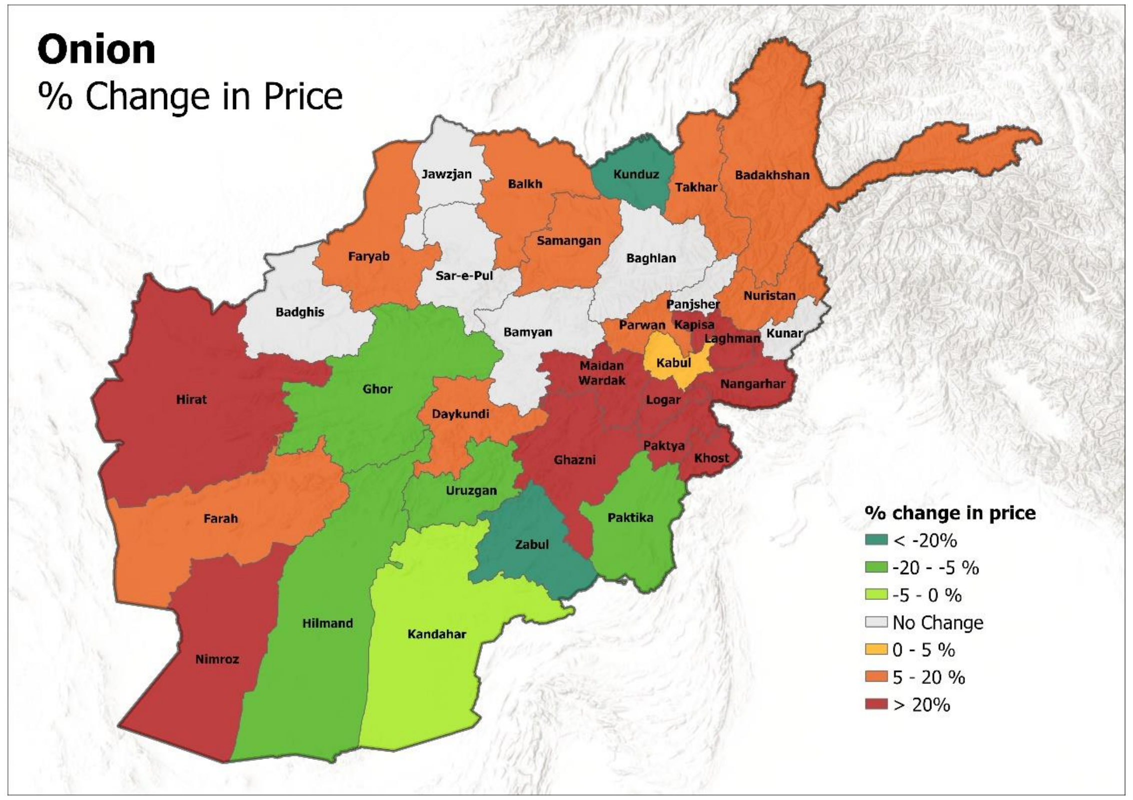


The prices of key vegetables, including tomatoes, potatoes, and onions, have experienced significant fluctuations over the past months but showing similar prices compared to the same time last year. These price shifts are primarily driven by variations in market supply associated with the inadequate storage facilities in the country, especially during for the winter season, and a decline in price levels during the seasonal harvest cycles. Also, climate-related disruptions and transportation costs also adds to the price changes. During the winter months, prices tend to spike as these essential items are increasingly sourced from neighbour countries which significantly increases the price of these items.

In September 2024, tomato prices stood at 20 AFN/kg, slightly lower than 22 AFN/kg in September 2023, but significantly below the winter peak of 59 AFN/kg in January 2024. Potatoes, at 23 AFN/kg in September 2024, were also stable compared to 28 AFN/kg last September and experienced a normal trend over the observed period. Onions, which have seen the most dramatic shifts, were priced at 22 AFN/kg in September 2024, higher than the 15 AFN/kg recorded in September 2023 but significantly below the 33 AFN/kg in March 2024. Overall, the winter months highlight considerable price fluctuations, particularly for tomatoes and onions, emphasizing the impact of seasonal import reliance and market supply dynamics.





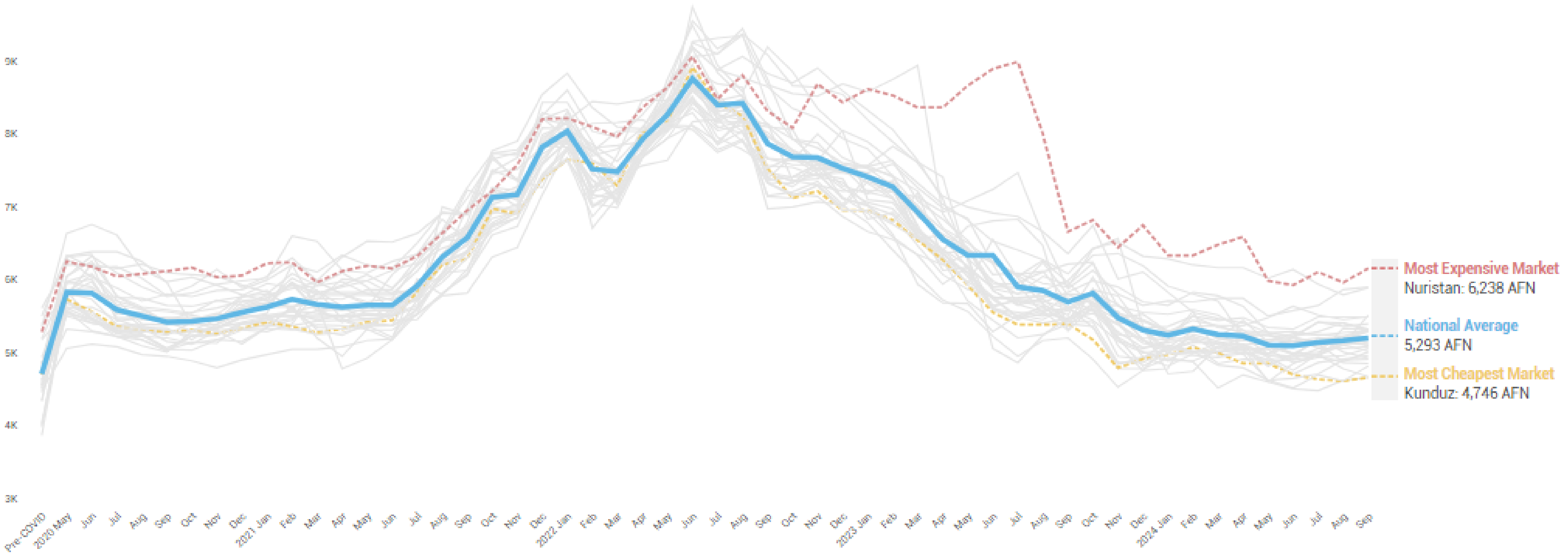


NATIONAL PRICE UPDATE

Monthly Price Changes in Food Basket

WFP Food Basket Price (AFN)

MAY 2020 - SEP 2024



Trigger Analysis for Transfer Value Revision

Transfer Value : 5800 AFN – May 2024

4th Week of September 2024	Current Prices	Consecutive Weeks ≥10% to <20% of TV (+/-)	Consecutive Weeks Increase ≥20% of TV (+/-)	% of TV
FSAC Food Basket (AFN)	5,585	0	0	-3.7%

Triggers are for Transfer Value (TV) revision. Triggers are thresholds for the number of consecutive weeks that the national average price of the FSAC food basket in USD or AFN has increased or decreased in comparison to the most recent TV by a minimum proportion: four consecutive weeks for a price change of ≥ 20% and eight consecutive weeks for ≥ 10%.

WFP In-kind Food Basket:

During September 2024, the price of WFP in-kind food basket in Afghani averaged at AFN 5,293, increased negligibly by 0.7 percent compared to last month but lower by 8% compared to the same time last year. The chart for the food basket is indicating a declining trend, showing a significant 40% decline from its peak of AFN 8,849 in June 2022 and a 18% decline compared to the 4-year average prices.

In 16 provincial capitals, the AFN price of in-kind basket was higher than the national average price, with 6 markets being higher by over 5 percent (Nuristan 18%, Kunar 13%, Daykundi 13%, Jawzjan 6%, Ghor and Samangan by 5% each). While in the rest of 18 provinces, the price of food basket was lower than the average price: Kunduz, Baghlan and Farah by -10% each, Takhar and Badakhshan by -7% each, Laghman, Faryab and Logar by -5% each and the rest were above -5%.

FSAC Food Basket:

The Food Security and Agriculture Cluster (FSAC) food basket used for cash-based transfers (CBTs) consists of 89 kg of wheat flour, 21 kg of domestic rice, 7 kg of vegetable oil, 9 kg of pulses, and 1 kg of salt. This is based on the latest minimum food basket and meets the monthly needs of an average-sized Afghan household.

The national average AFN price of FSAC basket in the month of September 2024 was 0.5 percent higher than the last month but 9 percent lower compared to the same time last year. Similarly, the national average USD price increased by 2.2 percent compared to the previous month, 3.2 percent higher than last year and 9.5 percent higher compared to month of June 2021.

NATIONAL PRICE UPDATE

Monthly Price Changes and Trend Analysis: Non-food Commodities

ITEMS	This Month	Last Month (%)	Last year (%)	Pre– Covid time (%)	June 2021 (%)	4 Years Average
1-year Old Live Female Sheep (AFN/Head)	7919	0.1%	6%	6%	5%	2%
Unskilled Labour Wage (AFN/day)	321	-1.0%	2%	11%	4%	6%
Skilled Labour Wage (AFN/day)	674	0.1%	3%	17%	4%	6%
Days of Unskilled Work Available Per Week	2.5	3.8%	3%	-9%	4%	18%
Diesel (AFN/Liter)	63	0.5%	-7%	41%	28%	-3%
Fertilizer - DAP (AFN/50 Kg)	3923	-4.5%	-12%		38%	-5%
Fertilizer - Urea (AFN/50 Kg)	1599	-3.1%	-18%		25%	-15%
Improved Seed (AFN/50 Kg)	1786	-0.3%	-18%		-5%	-16%
Animal feed (Concentrate) AFN/100kg	2732	2.4%	-16%		6%	-9%
Real Unskilled Labour Terms of Trade (Kgs)	4.8	0.2%	27%	5%	33%	63%
Casual Labour wage/wheat Nominal (Kgs)	13	-3.4%	23%	16%	28%	44%
Pastoralist Terms of Trade (Kgs)	326	-2.4%	27%	11%	29%	38%

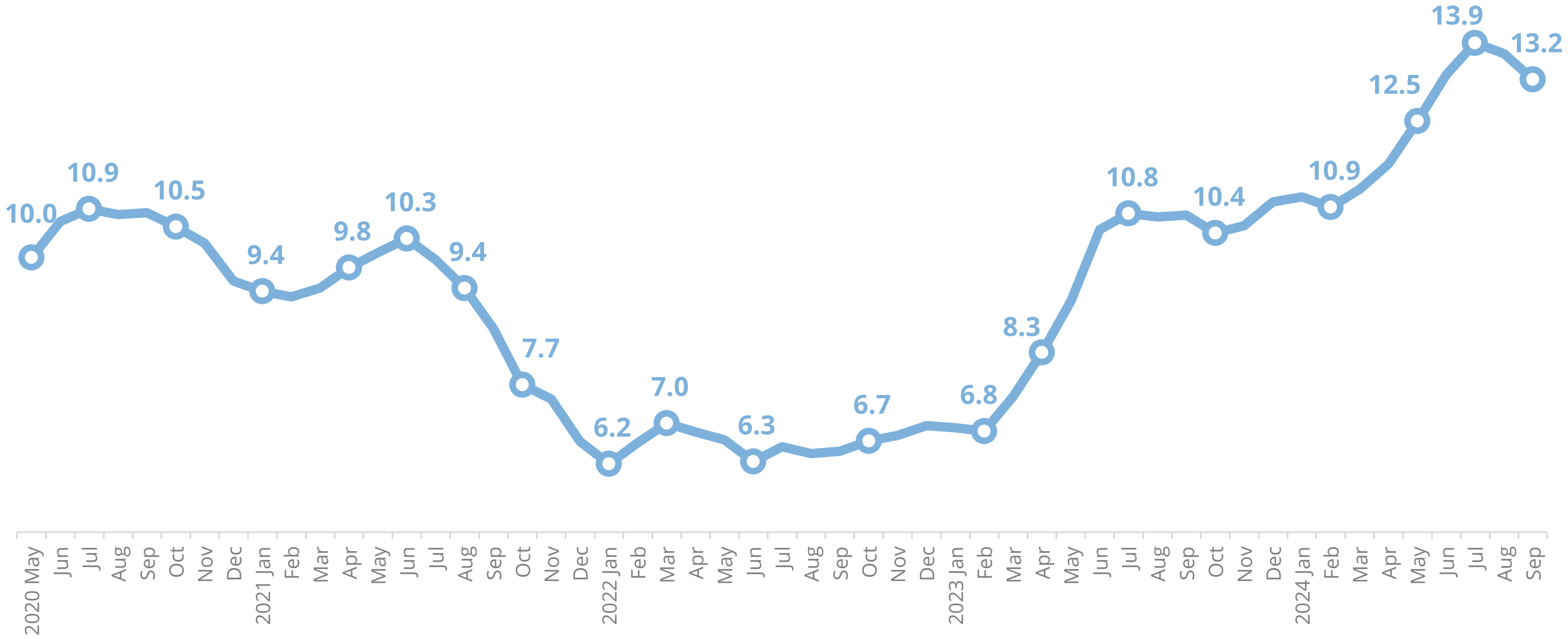
Data collected in September 2024 shows minor month-on-month changes in average non-food commodity prices. Fertilizer prices (DAP and Urea) decreased slightly by 4.5% and 3.1%, respectively, while the price of concentrate animal feed rose by 2.4%. Additionally, the nominal Terms of Trade (ToT) for casual labour and pastoralists declined slightly by 3.4% and 2.4%, respectively, due to a 2.5% increase in the average price of wheat grain. However, the real ToT for casual labour improved by 0.2%, driven by a 3.8% increase in casual labour availability per week.

Year-on-year comparisons show significant improvements in the ToT and declines in the prices of agricultural inputs and diesel, reflecting global price reductions and exchange rate appreciation. However, the current diesel price remains 41% higher than pre-Covid period and 28% higher than in June 2021 (before the political changes in the country). The global average price of diesel currently stands at $1.21 per litre, with significant variations across countries.

NATIONAL PRICE UPDATE

Key Labour Market Highlights

Change in Nominal Casual Labour/wheat ToT (Terms of Trade)



Days of Work Available & Labour Wage in September 2024

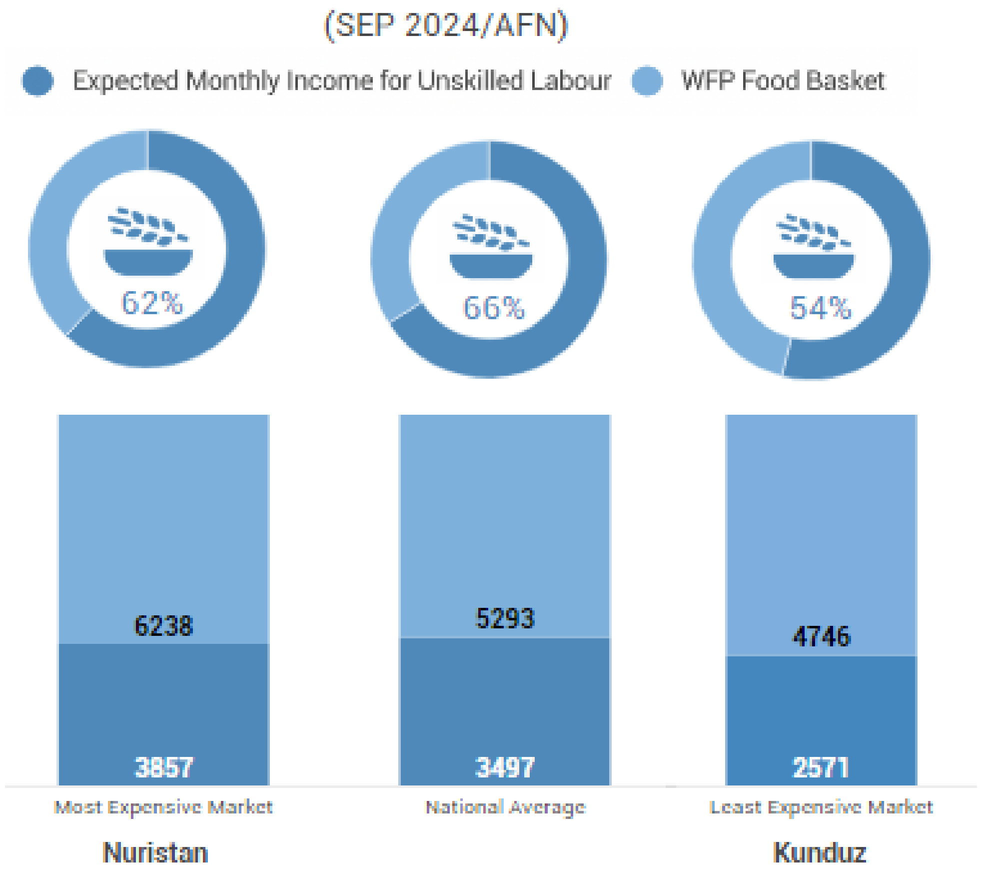
2.5

Average Working Days per week

321

Average Daily Wage for Unskilled Labour (AFN)

Full-time Casual Laborers Can Afford 66% of the WFP Food Basket on Average

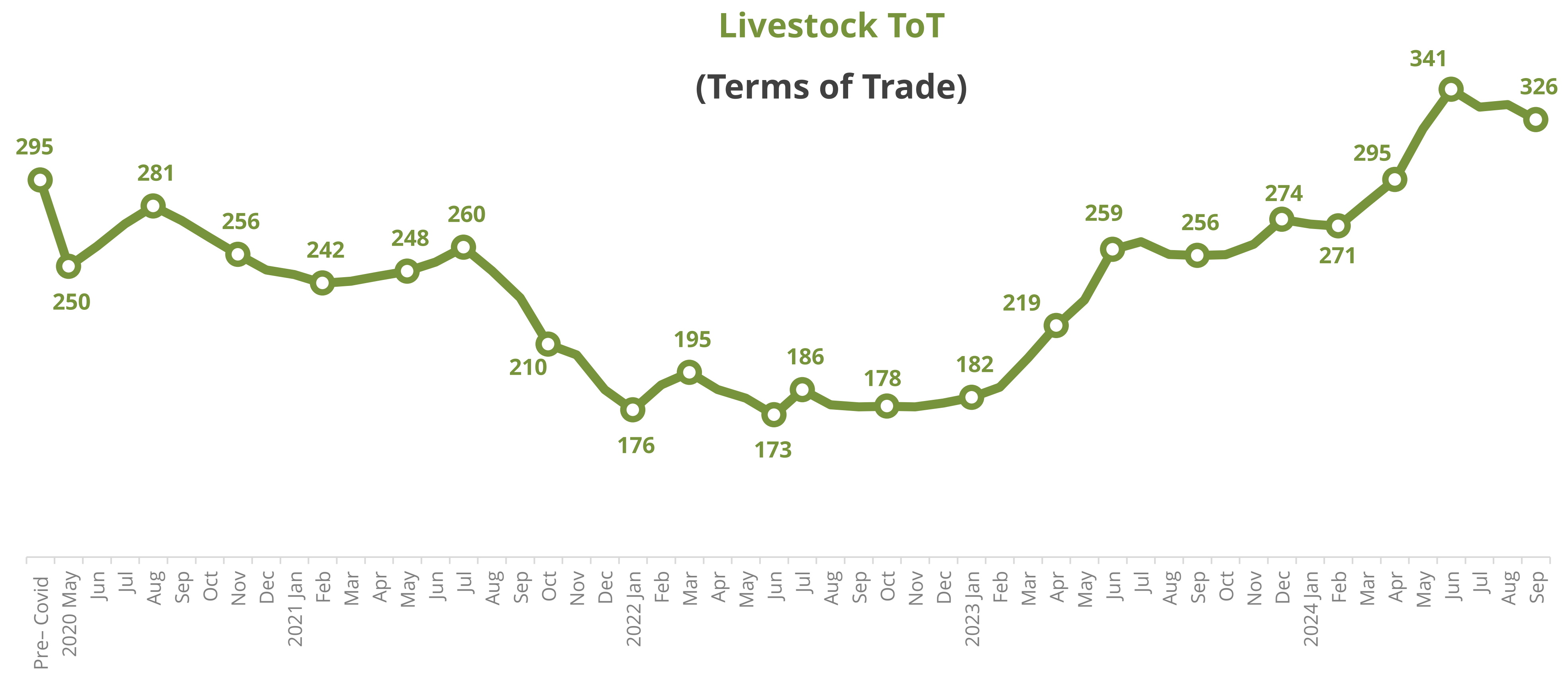


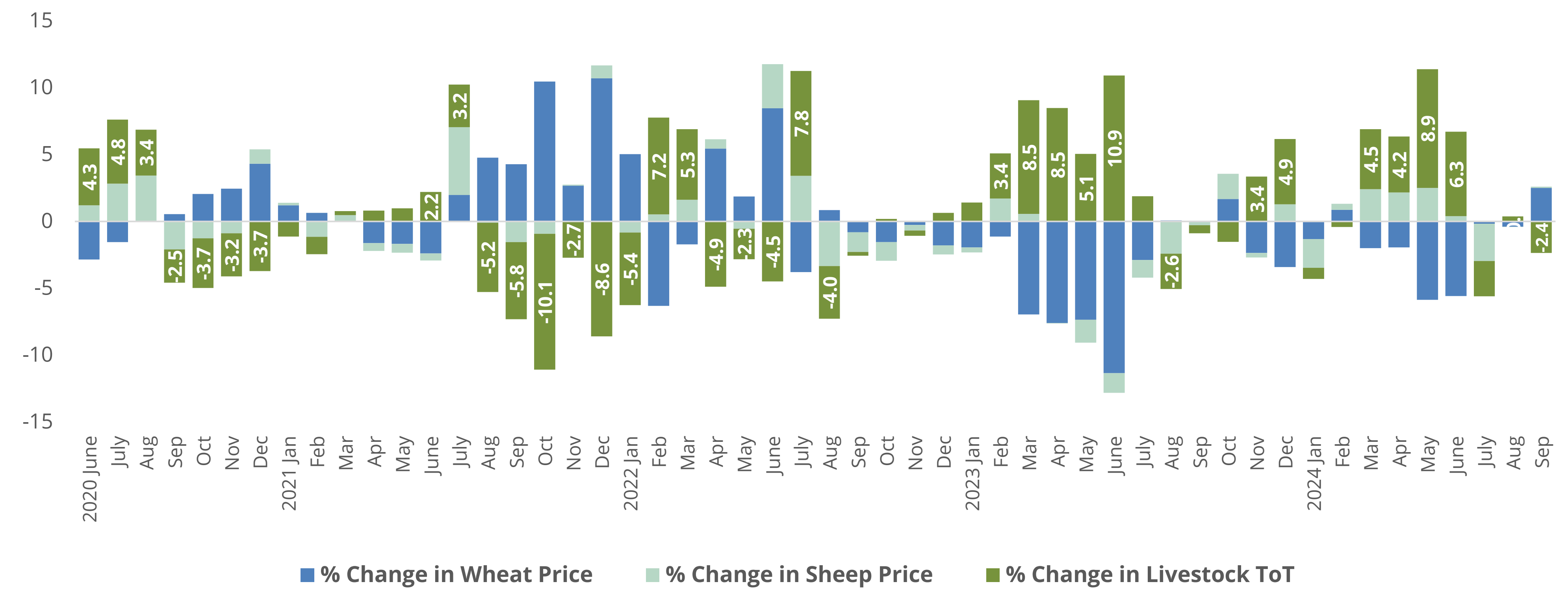
The month-on-month nominal casual labour Terms of Trade (ToT) has slightly deteriorated by 3.4% in September 2024 due to a 2.5% increase in the average price of wheat grain. Although the ToT chart was showing an upward trend since January 2024 but with the increase in price of wheat grain, it has started to decline again. The ToT has significantly improved compared to the same period last year and the month of June 2021 by 23% and 28%, respectively. Compared to last month, the ToT mainly deteriorated in Badghis (-16%), Laghman (-15%), Takhar and Farah (-10%) each, Khost and Baghlan (-8%) each, Kandahar (-7%), Panjshir and Parwan (-6%) each, and Kapisa, Nimroz and Zabul by (-5%) each. The deterioration was largely driven by increase in wheat prices and decreases in casual labour wages during this period. While the casual labour wage significantly decreased in Laghman and Badghis by 14% each and by 11% in Takhar, the price of wheat has also slightly increased in Farah by 11%, Kandahar, Baghlan and Khost by 8% each, 7% in Panjshir, and by 6% each in Parwan, Nimroz and Ghor.

In September 2024, **the MoM national average casual labour working days availability per week increased by 3.8%, indicating a 32 percent increase since Jan 2024.** On average, a casual labour can find 2.5 days of work per week and can gain AFN 321 per day. When examining the expected monthly income for unskilled labour (calculated average working day in a week to be divided by 7 and then multiplied by average daily wage and then multiplied by 30), it is found that on average, a full-time casual labour workers can afford 66% of WFP food basket. In the least expensive market, Kunduz, a full-time casual labourer can afford 54% of the WFP food basket. On the other hand, in the most expensive market which is Nuristan, the expected monthly income for unskilled labour is equivalent to 62% of the WFP food basket. Considering the affordability of the food basket, casual labour workers in Faryab, Takhar, Logar, Laghman, and Ghor can fully afford the food basket due to higher expected monthly income reported in these provinces.

NATIONAL PRICE UPDATE

Monthly Changes in Livestock TOT





Livestock/Wheat Terms of Trade (ToT): slightly deteriorated during September 2024 by 2.4% to 326 Kgs of wheat grain against a one-year-old female sheep due to decrease in the national average price of wheat grain by 2.5%, while the average price of sheep only increased by 0.1%. Moreover, the ToT is still significantly higher by 27%, 11%, 29% and 38% compared to the same time last year, pre-Covid period, month of June 2021 and the 4-year average prices, respectively.

The increase or decrease in livestock ToT is calculated by comparing the percentage change in sheep prices divided by the percentage change in wheat prices during this period. Compared to the last month, major changes in ToT occurred in several provinces: Nangarhar (+7%), whereas Farah (-11%), Kandahar, Baghlan and Khost each (-8%), Ghor (-7%), Panjshir and Parwan each (-6%), and Kapisa (-5%). Other than changes in provincial wheat prices, the price of a one-year-old female sheep also experienced minor changes. It decreased in Balkh and Sari Pul by 3% each and increased in Nimroz and Zabul by 9% and 4%, respectively.

Impact of Wheat Prices on Livestock Terms of Trade (ToT): The relationship between the percentage changes in monthly average price of wheat significantly influences the fluctuations in the terms of trade for livestock. Over the observed 4-years period, changes in livestock ToT are primarily associated with national wheat prices, which exhibited substantial fluctuations. Likewise, in the month of September 2024, a slight 2.4% deterioration in livestock ToT was attributed to the increase in the national average price of wheat grain. As of September 2024, livestock ToT was highest in Takhar at 425 Kgs of wheat grain against the price of sheep which is mainly due to a relatively lower price of wheat and higher price of sheep than the national average price.

Annex Table 1: Percent Difference in Market Prices (Remote Districts Compared to Provincial Capitals) September 2024

The colours are scaled in reverse for the price of sheep, labour wages and work availability

Province	District	Wheat	Wheat Flour High Price	Wheat Flour Low Price	High Quality Rice	Low Quality Rice	Cooking Oil	Pulses	Bread	Salt	Sugar	Tomato	Potato	Onion	Fertilizer (Dap)	Fertilizer (Urea)	Diesel	One Year Old Alive Female Sheep	Casual Labour Wage	Skilled Labour Wage	Work Availability For Daily Wage Labours (Days/Week)
Bamyan	Lal Wa Sarjungle	-11%	2%	17%	0%	6%	6%	-2%	0%	-7%	19%	50%	9%	-5%	0%	5%	2%	0%	0%	-29%	-8%
Daykundi	Ashterlay	0%	1%	-1%	-3%	7%	-6%	-7%	0%	20%	-3%	33%	4%	14%	-10%	-12%	0%	-12%	17%	0%	0%
Ghazni	Nawur		3%	5%	1%	13%	3%	6%	-1%	11%	16%	9%	4%	13%			7%	-1%	0%	-17%	
Paktika	Barmal	-4%	-6%	-4%	-6%	-4%	7%	5%	11%	-25%	-2%	8%	16%	39%		3%	3%	0%	-17%	-17%	-33%
Baghlan	Fering wa Gharo	-4%	15%	8%	3%	7%	3%	-10%	7%	33%	17%	0%	-20%	10%	5%	20%	16%	6%	0%	10%	-33%
Faryab	Kohistan	30%	3%	8%	16%	40%	16%	11%		52%	7%	43%	33%	20%			33%	-7%	50%	11%	0%
Jawzjan	Darzab	9%	3%	19%	22%	-14%	-9%	-21%	-20%	33%	-7%	20%	0%	0%			13%	-23%	0%	-7%	0%
Sari Pul	Kohistanat	4%	21%	15%	16%	17%	5%	26%		33%	15%	50%	20%	25%	22%	21%	3%	0%	14%	0%	0%
Kandahar	Reg	-6%	-19%	-21%	6%	17%	1%	-2%	-17%	86%	22%	4%	8%	14%	11%	-5%	1%	-29%	-40%	-69%	-67%
Helmand	Washer				43%	12%	8%	-13%	0%	-5%	10%	-45%	20%	66%			1%	12%	-20%	-30%	-50%
Nimroz	Delaram	1%	-3%	0%	-2%	3%	-11%	5%	43%	-15%	5%	-25%	-25%	-47%	18%	5%	-4%	-10%	-19%	-6%	0%
	Khashrud	-3%	0%	-8%	-2%	-1%	-8%		4%	-10%	13%	10%	-4%	-19%			-4%	-4%	-19%	0%	0%
Uruzgan	Gizab	8%	3%	5%	0%	-8%	2%	1%	0%	8%	7%	30%	12%	33%	3%	10%	4%	0%	20%	0%	0%
Zabul	Shamulzai	2%	13%	7%	28%	42%	2%	10%	-24%	3%	13%	131%	43%	90%	12%	13%	4%	-37%	0%	-17%	0%
Badakhshan	Wakhan				18%	16%	0%	-3%	-13%	140%	43%		88%	76%	7%	38%	49%	-33%	17%	-30%	0%
	Nusay	74%			8%	29%	0%	30%	-16%	-20%	-71%		78%	38%		45%	19%	-99%	17%	0%	200%
Takhar	Warsaj	14%	6%	30%	13%	11%	2%	-3%	0%	-33%	14%	14%	-23%	0%	8%	33%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Hirat	Farsi	-11%	7%	0%	15%	4%	2%	0%	20%	-23%	27%	100%	-20%	0%	7%	30%	25%	-8%	40%	40%	0%
Ghor	Pasaband	0%	6%	0%	-9%	25%	11%	14%	7%	25%	7%	0%	50%	50%			0%	5%	0%	11%	0%
Nangarhar	Hesarak	-4%	3%	4%	1%	2%	2%	0%	0%	30%	18%	0%	-17%	-33%	0%	18%	0%	-3%	-30%	-42%	-33%
Nuristan	Bargimatal		0%	3%	0%	-9%	-5%	-1%	0%	-20%	0%	17%	33%	43%	0%	0%	12%	0%	0%	0%	-33%

Annex Table 2: Main Food Items Market Watch (Provincial Level) – September 2024

MAIN FOOD ITEMS	WHEAT FLOUR - HIGH PRICE (AFN/KG)				HIGH QUALITY PRICE - (AFN/KG)				COOKING OIL (AFN/LITER)				PULSES (AFN/KG)			
	Current Price: Sep 2024	Month-on-Month	Year-on-Year	4-Year Average	Current Price: Sep 2024	Month-on-Month	Year-on-Year	4-Year Average	Current Price: Sep 2024	Month-on-Month	Year-on-Year	4-Year Average	Current Price: Sep 2024	Month-on-Month	Year-on-Year	4-Year Average
National Average	**31.2**	**1.5%**	**-7%**	**-22%**	**92.3**	**-1.3%**	**-18%**	**-11%**	**93.7**	**1.1%**	**-11%**	**-26%**	**104.4**	**-1%**	**-9%**	**1%**
Kabul	31.2	-3%	-7%	-19%	111.0	2%	-6%	1%	95.3	2%	-10%	-29%	112.9	-1%	-10%	0%
Bamyan	31.5	1%	-9%	-26%	112.5	4%	-18%	-6%	89.5	-4%	-20%	-36%	98.3	-7%	-20%	-12%
Daykundi	35.5	2%	0%	-20%	123.8	1%	-1%	7%	106.3	5%	-16%	-17%	114.6	-2%	-1%	14%
Ghazni	32.0	3%	-4%	-16%	84.4	-1%	-25%	-10%	99.5	2%	-7%	-17%	101.4	-1%	-7%	6%
Kapisa	30.8	2%	-5%	-21%	84.5	-6%	-22%	-17%	96.5	5%	-6%	-23%	96.0	-7%	-20%	-10%
Khost	32.5	-2%	-3%	-16%	83.0	0%	-16%	-11%	97.0	5%	2%	-13%	101.1	-1%	-5%	-7%
Logar	29.5	2%	-6%	-22%	100.0	0%	-7%	3%	87.0	0%	-19%	-28%	103.0	0%	-5%	-2%
Paktika	33.0	3%	3%	-13%	80.0	-1%	-23%	-15%	90.8	3%	-17%	-26%	98.0	-2%	-11%	7%
Paktya	30.0	3%	-9%	-22%	100.0	0%	-10%	2%	88.0	0%	-18%	-27%	105.7	0%	-6%	1%
Panjsher	32.0	1%	-7%	-20%	83.0	1%	-26%	-23%	98.3	4%	-5%	-28%	101.8	-2%	-14%	-4%
Parwan	30.5	0%	-7%	-22%	83.0	-4%	-28%	-22%	96.8	3%	-7%	-22%	99.3	-5%	-15%	-9%
Wardak	32.0	3%	1%	-15%	85.5	-1%	-24%	-14%	99.5	1%	-6%	-17%	103.2	0%	-9%	6%
Balkh	30.5	-4%	-12%	-23%	100.0	0%	-15%	-9%	100.0	4%	-10%	-21%	96.3	-1%	-15%	-5%
Baghlan	28.5	0%	-14%	-24%	93.5	-1%	-24%	-15%	94.6	2%	-14%	-27%	82.1	2%	-12%	-9%
Faryab	30.0	-2%	-14%	-25%	95.0	-3%	-18%	-10%	95.0	-1%	-4%	-23%	90.0	0%	-13%	-8%
Jawzjan	33.0	13%	2%	-16%	90.0	-4%	-23%	-18%	102.0	1%	2%	-20%	109.2	2%	5%	16%
Kunduz	28.0	2%	-13%	-27%	100.0	0%	-17%	-8%	91.5	2%	-10%	-27%	87.5	-1%	-17%	-8%
Samangan	32.8	1%	2%	-16%	98.8	0%	-12%	-7%	100.0	4%	2%	-21%	109.2	-2%	8%	13%
Saripul	29.3	-3%	-17%	-28%	97.5	-3%	-17%	-11%	95.0	0%	-10%	-26%	104.6	1%	-2%	9%
Kandahar	29.8	4%	-10%	-27%	78.3	-3%	-15%	-11%	89.3	2%	-17%	-38%	129.3	0%	-6%	3%
Hilmand	31.0	0%	-2%	-23%	73.5	-4%	-37%	-28%	86.5	6%	-41%	-41%	125.8	-1%	0%	8%
Nimroz	30.0	1%	-11%	-25%	82.0	0%	-28%	-23%	91.0	-1%	-35%	-32%	109.0	-1%	-16%	-9%
Uruzgan	31.0	1%	-16%	-29%	76.0	-1%	-22%	-18%	91.0	-9%	-36%	-42%	116.5	-2%	1%	9%
Zabul	31.8	2%	-3%	-21%	88.0	0%	-18%	-17%	90.0	-1%	-37%	-43%	100.3	-1%	-10%	-8%
Badakhshan	30.0	0%	-21%	-34%	85.0	0%	-30%	-20%	100.0	4%	-1%	-22%	80.1	-5%	-12%	-9%
Takhar	31.0	8%	-7%	-25%	77.5	-4%	-22%	-23%	94.5	2%	1%	-21%	74.0	-4%	-13%	-8%
Hirat	28.8	3%	-8%	-23%	81.3	-4%	-21%	-17%	93.0	0%	-1%	-28%	108.3	4%	-12%	5%
Badghis	32.0	2%	-3%	-21%	80.0	-6%	-17%	-21%	90.5	1%	-2%	-23%	101.3	-7%	-16%	-8%
Farah	25.3	-3%	-22%	-40%	79.5	-6%	-20%	-17%	88.5	2%	-12%	-36%	112.9	-4%	-14%	-6%
Ghor	32.8	1%	7%	-18%	110.0	-3%	-3%	3%	90.0	4%	-10%	-23%	117.2	-4%	-6%	10%
Nangarhar	31.3	1%	-4%	-19%	106.3	1%	-6%	10%	85.0	-2%	-2%	-20%	109.2	3%	-10%	4%
Kunar	33.5	2%	-7%	-16%	108.0	-2%	-4%	7%	86.3	1%	-10%	-22%	147.5	-1%	24%	48%
Laghman	30.8	0%	-4%	-20%	85.3	-1%	-23%	-12%	92.0	0%	-6%	-16%	86.7	2%	-16%	-13%
Nuristan	38.5	7%	-3%	-15%	122.5	2%	-18%	3%	96.0	-10%	-9%	-22%	119.2	2%	-17%	4%

Price Decrease Below Normal Price Fluctuation

Normal Price Fluctuation

Price Increase Above Normal Price Fluctuation

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Notes & Definitions

- WFP collects price data weekly from all 34 provincial capitals through third-party monitors. Monthly prices are an average of the four weekly prices.
- WFP reports on two types of rice in Afghanistan—*palawi*, a long-grain variety that is generally more preferred, more expensive, and primarily imported, and *sholae*, a short-grain variety that is generally less preferred, cheaper, and more commonly sourced domestically. There are no significant nutritional differences between these types.
- The price of pulses is an average of the prices of lentils, chickpeas, and red beans.
- Pastoralist Terms of Trade (ToT) captures the purchasing power of livestock-owning households. It indicates how many kilograms of wheat grain can be obtained by selling a one-year-old female sheep.
- Real Unskilled Labour Terms of Trade (ToT) captures the purchasing power of unskilled labourers. It indicates how many kilograms of wheat grain can be obtained with the average daily wage for unskilled labour adjusted by the average number of working days available per week in a market.
- Nominal Terms of Trade (ToT) for unskilled labour doesn't include the number of working days and only calculates the average daily wage of casual labour against the average price of wheat.
- Casual Labour: Casual labours normally don’t have specific skills and usually hired by the hour or day or for the performance of specific tasks, paid at the lower rate compared to skilled labours.
- Skilled Labour: These workers need to have a set of specialized skills to perform their job duties effectively. They are normally paid at higher level compared to casual labour.

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