

FOOD PRICE MONITOR: KENYA

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The Food Price Monitor: Kenya is a monthly report developed for the Food Security Portal (FSP), facilitated by IFPRI, with the goal of providing clear and accurate information on commodity price trends and variations in selected markets throughout Kenya. The reports are intended as a resource for those interested in agricultural commodity markets in Kenya, namely producers, traders, consumers, or other agricultural stakeholders.

Highlights

- Bean price fluctuations may be driven by increased demand, limited supply, higher transportation costs, geographic location, and local economic conditions.
- Irish potato price hikes in densely populated areas are likely due to high demand, limited availability, perishability, intermediaries, and rising fuel-related transportation costs.
- Higher rice and wheat prices can be attributed to reliance on international markets, importation costs, supply-demand imbalances, transportation expenses, climate conditions, government policies, and market speculation.
- Price reductions in Nakuru for most dry beans, Irish potatoes, Pishori rice, and wheat can be attributed to seasonal factors and increased availability of commodities in this agriculturally productive region.
- The upward trend in wholesale prices for commodities in densely populated, non-agricultural cities is influenced by seasonal factors, rising marketing costs, and general market dynamics.

Overall Wholesale and Retail Prices for September

Figure 1 illustrates the wholesale and retail prices for maize, beans, potatoes, rice, and wheat in major Kenyan markets for September 2024. Several commodities exhibited price margins between 16% and 25%, including dry maize (both white and yellow), various dry beans (such as Nyayo, Purple, Red Kidney, Saitoti, and Soya beans), and different rice varieties (Basmati, Biriani, Pishori, Sana, and Sindano). Other commodities, like specific dry beans (Army green, Butter, Green yellow, Nyota, and white Rosecoco) and most rice varieties (Ahero, Alnab, Fatma, Mara 777, Mpunga, Pishori grade 1, Sunrice, Tamtam, and Yabal), displayed price margins ranging from 6% to 15%. Furthermore, certain items, including various dry beans (such as Black beans, Mwitemania, Pinto, yellow, Rosecoco, and Wairimu), Shangi Irish potatoes, Pakistan rice, and wheat, showed higher price margins of 26% to 35%. Mixed beans experienced a notably elevated price margin of 50%, driven by strong demand.

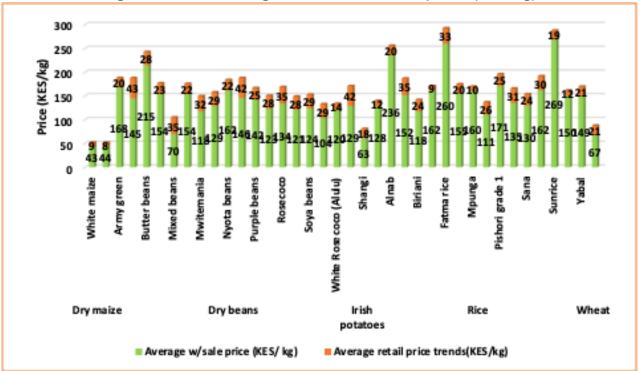


Figure 1: Overall average wholesale and retail prices (KES/Kg)

Source: Daily Market Survey for the month of September 2024

Wholesale and Retail Commodity Prices

Various types of dry beans were discovered in different regions of Kenya. Njahi (black beans), green/yellow beans, Nyayo, Mwitemania, Rosecoco, and Wairimu beans were commonly found throughout all selected regions. Army green beans were extensively available in every region except Kisumu, while yellow beans were present in every region except Nairobi. Additionally, certain beans were unique to specific regions; for example, Nyota beans were exclusively available in Eldoret, and Pinto beans were only found in Kisumu. Eldoret had the highest diversity of bean varieties, while Kisumu and Nyeri had the fewest (refer to Table 1). Nakuru and Nyeri may have lower bean prices compared to other regions due to factors such as oversupply, and high competition among sellers. Price fluctuations could have been influenced by higher prices due to factors such as increased demand, limited supply, higher transportation costs, geographic location, and local economic conditions.

All regions indicated the presence of dry white maize, whereas yellow maize was exclusively available in the Kisumu region. Mombasa exhibited higher retail and wholesale prices of 69 KES/kg each, in contrast to the national average wholesale and retail prices of 43 KES/kg

and 52 KES/kg, respectively. Likewise, Nyeri reported a retail price of 61 KES/kg. The elevated prices in the non-producing area of Mombasa may be attributed to increased transportation costs, heightened demand in urban centers, and possible logistical difficulties resulting from high fuel prices.

Certain regions have observed increased wholesale prices for Irish potatoes, with Eldoret pricing at 64 KES/kg and Nairobi at a higher 92 KES/kg, surpassing the national average of 63 KES/kg. In retail markets, Nairobi's price is notably elevated at 110 KES/kg, compared to the national average of 81 KES/kg. These price hikes in densely populated areas can be linked to various factors, such as heightened demand, the limited availability of the perishable product, the involvement of intermediaries, and escalating transportation expenses due to rising fuel costs.

All regions reported having Biriani, Pishori, and Basmati rice available, with Sindano rice being widely found except in Nairobi. Mombasa also offered other varieties such as Fatma, Tamtam, Mpunga, and Sunrice. Additionally, Falcon rice was available in Eldoret and Ahero, while Pakistan rice could be found in Kisumu and Nyeri, and Alnab rice was present in Nakuru and Nyeri. Eldoret experienced higher wholesale and retail prices for most common rice varieties, attributed to a significant reliance on the international market for consumption needs, which has driven up prices due to importation costs.

In Eldoret, dry wheat was priced at a high wholesale rate of 70 KES/kg, while Kisumu saw prices reaching 79 KES/kg, and Nyeri matched Eldoret's 70 KES/kg. All of these figures are above the national wholesale average of 67 KES/kg. Retail prices also reflected this trend, with Eldoret retailing at 92 KES/kg, Kisumu at 107 KES/kg, and Nyeri at 91 KES/kg, compared to the national average retail price of 83 KES/kg. The increase in wheat prices is mainly driven by market dynamics, particularly when demand outstrips supply, and is further intensified by a high dependency on imports in densely populated and non-producing areas. According to the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), the average retail price of wheat per kilogram in Kenya experienced the sharpest increase of 10.9% during the month, followed by maize, which rose by 9.9%. In contrast, the price of rice saw a marginal increase of 0.82% (Kenya Nation ePaper, September 2024).

Product	Variety			Average w/sale price (KES/ kg)			Average retail price (KES/ kg)					Total	Total		
P. Landarder	van iery	Eldo	Kisu	Momb	Nair	Nak	Ny	Eldo	Kisu	Momb	Nair	Nak	Ny	aver	aver
		ret	mu	858	obi	uru	ari	ret	mu	858	obi	uru	eri	age w/sa le price per kg	age retai l price per kg
	Army green	186		176	164	151	14 1	212		187	180	171	18 0	168	188
_	Black beans (Njahi)	198	174	158	166	81	10 0	232	261	170	187	111	17 7	145	188
Dry	Butter beans	266			204	174		313			222	197		215	243
beans	Green/yellow	167	158	161	162	132	14 5	192	205	168	180	154	17 9	154	177
	Mixed beans	74		75		66		121		90		97		70	105
	Mwezi moja	167			146			186			170			154	176
	Mwitemania	133	157	130	142	75	89	160	190	140	170	109	15 0	118	150
	Nyayo	133	132	156	146	102	10 3	153	166	164	170	131	16 5	129	158
	Purple beans	ļ	138	145					196	150	L	ļ		142	167
	Red kidney		152			102			200			116		123	151
	Resecoco	139	135	162	161	93	11 8	160	186	175	180	136	17 5	134	169
	Saitoti	137		124	144	79		156		148	164	127		121	149
	Soya beans					119	13 1					142	17 3	124	153
	Wairimu	117	111	130	99	83	84	145	143	137	120	105	14 7	104	133
	White Resecco (Alulu)	178		75				204		80				120	134
	Yellow	146	149	120		96	10 9	178	216	160		150	12 9	129	171
Dry	White maize	42	37	69	39	35	- 33	47	43	69	50	42	61	43	52
maize	Yellow maize		44						52					44	52
irish potatoes	Shangi	64	55	60	92	51	60	70	75	80	110	82	74	63	81
	Ahero		128						140	L	L			128	140
	Alnab					220	27 0					250	27 0	236	256
	Basmati	205	148	144	139	143	14 0	233	201	160	160	180	17 9	152	187
	Biriani	141	112	126	105	118	10 8	165	144	137	128	136	14 4	118	142
Rice	Falcon	162	ļ		ļ	ļ	L	171	ļ	007	 	 	L	162	171
	Fatma rice	208	 	277			47	280	<u> </u>	297	<u> </u>	470	47	260	293
	Mara 777			260		148	15 1			270		170	17 0	155	175
	Mpunga	ļ	10.4	160		ļ	+0		1.45	170	<u> </u>	ļ	4.0	160	170
	Pakistan Notori errete t		124	400	475	445	10 4	00.5	145	005	40.1	400	13 2	111	137
	Pishori grade 1	193		186	175	143	16 8	224		205	194	168	20 2	171	196
	Pishori grade 2	146	124					169	163		L			135	166
	Sana	148				130	12 0	180				154	13 9	130	154
	Sindano	189	159	159		151	15 1	224	215	172		174	17 6	162	192
	Sunrice			269						286		ļ		269	288
	Temtem		ļ	150		440	47			162	ļ	470	47	150	162
balas -	Yabal	70	70			148	15 0					170	17 0	149	170
Wheat	Wheat	70	79	60	67	60	70	92	107	75	84	84	90	67	88

Table 1: Average wholesale and retail prices (kes/kg) by region for September 2024

Source: Daily Market Survey for the month of September 2024

Wholesale and Retail Price Trends by Region

In the first week, as well as weeks two through four, there were significant fluctuations in weekly prices across different regions. In Eldoret, most commodities experienced a downward trend in prices. When examining wholesale price trends, all commodities including dry beans, dry maize, rice, wheat, and Irish potatoes showed a decline, except for black beans (Njahi), which maintained stable prices from week 1 through week 4. Specifically, dry beans saw a decrease in wholesale prices of between 1% and 4%, maize dropped by 3%, Irish potatoes declined by 4%, and various types of rice experienced price falls ranging from 1% to 3%. Notably, dry wheat faced a sharp price drop of 8%. Similarly, retail prices for all commodities also decreased, with declines between 1% and 11%. As a key agricultural region, the decline in prices in Eldoret may be attributed to good rainfall, favorable climatic conditions for production, and seasonality, considering that many commodities including maize, wheat, and beans are currently in season, while potatoes are sourced from nearby counties of TransNzoia and Nakuru. According to the Relief Web September 2024 Bulletin, Eldoret is known as a producing area within the "grain basket zone," which explains the low prices of most in-season food commodities.

In Kisumu, the prices of commodities displayed varied trends from week 1 to week 4. Many food items experienced fluctuations in wholesale prices. Notably, dry beans saw price increases, with Njahi rising by 2.8%, Nyayo by 8.3%, and yellow beans by 1.2%. Additionally, dry maize prices increased, with white maize up by 2% and yellow maize by 3%. Ahero rice also experienced a 1.4% rise in wholesale price, while wheat went up by 2.5%. On the other hand, certain dry beans like Rosecoco and Wairimu recorded price declines of 10% and 9% respectively. Irish potatoes also saw a 4% decrease, and various types of dry rice, including Basmati, Pishori, and Sindano, reported declines of 3%, 5%, and 1% respectively. The overall downward trend in prices can be attributed to the influx of food commodities from neighboring counties and imports from Tanzania and Uganda in the East Africa region.

In Mombasa, a review of wholesale and retail prices between weeks 1 and 4 indicates that most food items experienced a decrease in both price categories, although a few saw either increases or remained stable. The retail prices for some items, such as Black beans (Njahi), white Rosecoco (Alulu) beans, and Mpunga rice, remained unchanged. In contrast, several types of dry beans (including Green yellow, Mwitemania, Nyayo, Rosecoco, Saitoti, and Wairimu) recorded retail price decreases ranging from 1.5% to 10%. Dry white maize prices dropped by 3%, while various rice types (Biriani, Fatma, Pishori, and Sunrice) saw declines between 1% and 8%. Dry wheat also decreased by 1.7%. On the other hand, certain food

FOCUS ON WHEAT ACROSS SELECTED REGIONS

Wheat is a vital staple crop in Kenya, playing a crucial role in the country's daily calorie intake. Currently, it is the second most widely grown cereal, after maize. Its significance has increased due to population growth and urbanization, which have shifted food preferences towards convenient meals and fast foods like bread, biscuits, pasta, and noodles. However, local wheat production falls short of meeting domestic demand, resulting in a reliance on imports. This shortfall is attributed to low yields, inefficient farming practices, and poor post-harvest management, especially during wet conditions at harvest time. Kenya has yet to achieve self-sufficiency in wheat production, leading to a widening gap between supply and demand. To meet the growing need for wheat, the country primarily imports from nations such as Austria, Russia, Argentina, Ukraine, and Canada.

Wheat farming in Kenya is mainly found in the Rift Valley region, which includes Narok, Nakuru, Uasin Gishu, Trans Nzoia counties, and Nanyuki. This crop flourishes in dry climates with well-drained soil, particularly thriving under moderate rainfall conditions. The primary wheat variety grown in Kenya is Durum. Other varieties cultivated in the country include Kenya Kingbird, Kenya Eagle, KS-Chui, Robin, Pasa, Kenya Chirika, KS Mwamba, KS Farasi, Mbega, Ngamia, Duma, Kenya Tembo, Kenya Mbweha, Kenya Nungu, Kenya Kulungu, Kenya Paka, Kenya Nyangumi, Kenya Nyambu, Kenya Kongono, Kenya Fahari, Kenya Popo, Mbuni, and Kenya Kwale, among others.

Wheat was found in several regions, including Eldoret, Kisumu, and Nyeri, which reported higher wholesale and retail prices than the overall average wholesale price of KES 67 per kg. In contrast, Mombasa, Nairobi, and Nakuru had lower retail and wholesale prices than the total average retail price of KES 88 per kg. Wheat prices varied across regions due to factors such as local supply and demand imbalances, differences in transportation costs, varying climate conditions affecting crop yields, government policies, and market speculation.

Figure 1: Average wholesale and retail prices of wheat (KES/kg) in selected regions

	1	Total average w/sale price (KES/				
Eldoret	Kisumu	Mombasa	Nairobi	Nakuru	Nyeri	
70	79	60	67	60	70	67
		Total average retail price (KES/kg				
Eldoret	Kisumu	Mombasa	Nairobi	Nakuru	Nyeri	
92	107	75	84	84	90	88
	70 Eldoret	Eldoret Kisumu 70 79 Eldoret Kisumu	Eldoret Kisumu Mombase 70 79 60 Average retail prio Eldoret Kisumu Mombase	70 79 60 67 Average retail price (KES/kg) Eldoret Kisumu Mombase Nairobi	Eldoret Kisumu Mombasa Nairobi Nakuru 70 79 60 67 60 Average retali prico (KES/kg) Eldoret Kisumu Mombasa Nairobi Nakuru	Eldoret Kisumu Morrbass Nairobi Nakuru Myeri 70 79 60 67 60 70 Average retail price (KES/kg) Eldoret Kisumu Morrbass Nairobi Nakuru Myeri

Source: Daily Market Survey for the month of September 2024.

commodities experienced rising retail prices, including Army green beans (up by 4.6%), Shangi Irish potatoes (1%), Sindano rice (5%), and Tamtam rice (4%). The observed price stability and declines are primarily attributed to imports from Tanzania, Uganda, and Pakistan, as well as the availability of food from local producing areas.

In the Nairobi region, a comparison of wholesale and retail prices reveals distinct trends. Most wholesale prices for commodities experienced increases, with only a handful showing declines or stability. Conversely, retail prices remained mostly stable, with few commodities noting changes in either direction. For wholesale prices, several varieties of dry beans including Black beans, Green Yellow, Mwitemania, Nyayo, Rosecoco, and Wairimu witnessed price hikes ranging from 1% to 10%. Shangi beans rose by 5%, while prices for dry rice varieties like Basmati, Biriani, and Pishori climbed between 3% and 8%. Similarly, wheat saw an increase of 8%. However, some dry beans did record price drops, with Butter decreasing by 7%, Mwezi Moja by 4%, and Saitoti by 2%. Meanwhile, dry maize maintained stable wholesale prices. The upward trend in wholesale prices for commodities in this densely populated, non-agricultural producing city can be attributed to seasonal influences, rising marketing costs, and overall market dynamics.

A comparison of wholesale and retail prices in Nakuru between week 1 and week 4 revealed mixed price changes across various commodities. In the wholesale market, prices for several items rose, including dry beans (Army green, Black beans, Green yellow, Mixed, Mwitemania, and Nyayo), which saw decreases of 1% to 8%, alongside Shangi Irish potatoes (0.1%), Pishori rice (4%), and wheat (1.2%). These price reductions may be attributed to seasonal factors and the availability of commodities in this agriculturally productive region. On the other hand, certain commodities saw price drops in the wholesale market, such as Butter beans, Red Kidney beans, Rosecoco, Saitoti, and Wairimu beans, which decreased by 2% to 6%. The price increases for some items in the region were likely driven by higher demand, rising transportation costs due to heavy rainfall, and supply shortages.

In comparing prices between week four and week one in the Nyeri region, most commodities experienced an increase in wholesale prices, while a few saw declines. Conversely, retail prices predominantly fell, with only a small number of commodities registering increases. Specifically, all types of dry beans witnessed price drops ranging from 1% to 6%, with the exception of yellow beans, which rose by 2%. Additionally, the retail price of dry white maize decreased by 3%, and most available rice varieties saw price reductions between 1% and 5%. Shangi Irish potatoes experienced a slight retail price increase of 1%. These fluctuations in wholesale and retail prices in the region are influenced by seasonal changes and marketing dynamics.

A comparison of the overall prices (national averages for all commodities) between July and August 2024 shows that most wholesale and retail prices remained stable or decreased (see Table 2). Most commodities had stable prices, with changes ranging from a 2% decrease to a 2% increase. However, some commodities experienced larger price declines of -2% to -7%, while a few saw modest increases between 2% and 13%. This trend can be attributed to the steady supply of food commodities from various production regions and imports from neighboring East African countries and beyond.

Comparison of National Average Prices between August and September

When examining the overall prices (national averages for all commodities) between August and September 2024, most wholesale and retail prices declined (refer to Table 2). Many commodities saw significant reductions, with decreases ranging from -4% to -14%, and some reporting noteworthy declines of -14% to -45%. This trend is probably due to the abundant supply of food commodities from various producing regions, along with imports from neighboring East African countries and from countries such as Pakistan, Thailand, and India.

Product	Variety	Average V Price (Kes	Vholesale /Kg)	Percentage change	Average Ro (Kes/ Kg)	Percentage change		
		August	September	1	August	September	1	
Dry maize	White maize	45	43	-5%	54	52	-4%	
-	Yellow maize	37	44	16%	47	52	10%	
	Army green	177	168	-5%	182	188	3%	
	Black beans (N)ahl)	165	145	-14%	205	188	-9%	
	Butter beans	238	215	-11%	261	243	-7%	
	Green/yellow	157	154	-2%	184	177	-4%	
	Mixed beans	64	70	9%	89	105	15%	
Devidence	Mwezi moja	160	154	-4%	200	176	-14%	
Dry beans	Mwitemania	128	118	-8%	160	150	-7%	
	Nyayo	136	129	-5%	166	158	-5%	
	Nyota beans	171	162	-6%	187	184	-2%	
	Pinto beans	151	146	-3%	219	188	-16%	
	Purple beans	148	142	-4%	171	167	-2%	
	Red kidney	130	123	-6%	159	151	-5%	
	Rosecoco	151	134	-13%	172	169	-2%	
	Saltoti	130	121	-7%	150	149	-1%	
	Wairimu	111	104	-7%	138	133	-4%	
	White Rosecoco (Alulu))	132	120	-10%	147	134	-10%	
	Yellow	163	129	-26%	210	171	-23%	
ish potatoes	Shangi	61	63	3%	77	81	5%	
	Ahero	127	128	1%	151	140	-8%	
	Basmati	168	152	-11%	203	187	-9%	
	Birlani	126	118	-7%	147	142	-4%	
	Falcon	177	162	-9%	191	171	-12%	
	Fatma rice	280	260	-8%	300	293	-2%	
Rice	Mpunga	160	160	0%	170	170	0%	
	Pakistan	114	111	-3%	140	137	-2%	
	Pishori grade 1	169	171	1%	192	196	2%	
	Pishori grade 2	194	135	-44%	205	166	-23%	
	Sindano	175	162	-8%	204	192	-6%	
	Sunrice	280	269	-4%	300	288	-4%	
	Tamtam	150	150	0%	160	162	1%	
Wheat	Wheat	64	67	4%	80	88	9%	
		•	Key			•		
		<4 but>=-	4	Slight decrea				
		>-4 but <-	14	Decrease	Decrease			
		>14 but<	45	Major Decrea	ise			
		>4 but <=	16	Increase				

Table 2: Comparison of August and September prices

Source: Daily Market Survey for the month of September 2024

Outlook for the Month of October

The following trends are anticipated in October:

- Maize and beans prices may stabilize as harvests begin in major producing regions, with farmers expected to start harvesting in October, potentially leading to stable or lower prices.
- Rice and wheat prices will likely remain influenced by global factors. Rice could experience price increases due to export restrictions, while wheat is expected to stay expensive due to ongoing global conflicts and supply chain disruptions.
- Irish potato prices may rise, driven by the perishability of the commodity, high transportation costs, and strong demand in major cities and towns.

FOCUS ON KISUMU REGION

Kisumu, located in western Kenya, is positioned alongside Lake Victoria, the largest freshwater lake in Africa. As Kenya's thirdlargest city, it follows Mombasa, the coastal city, and Nairobi, the capital. Within the Lake Victoria Basin. Kisumu is the thirdlargest city, after Mwanza in Tanzania and Kampala in Uganda. Although it is a significant market center. Kisumu grapples with challenges such as food shortages and limited agricultural productivity. Nevertheless, its strategic location supports favorable conditions for both agricultural and aguatic endeavors. The Kano Plains in Kisumu County are particularly famous for their irrigated rice cultivation. Additionally, the northern and eastern edges of the Kano Plains host some of Kenya's most productive sugarcane farms, mainly found in Kibos, Miwani, and Chemelil. Kisumu County also plays a vital role in providing fresh produce, including vegetables, poultry, beans, sweet potatoes, and maize.

Kibuye Market, recognized as one of the largest open-air markets in Eastern and Central Africa, serves as a crucial venue for price gathering on various commodities. It meets the needs of surrounding sub-counties and counties in the Nyanza region, offering a diverse range of fresh produce and other agricultural and non-agricultural goods. The market operates on both wholesale and retail levels. Managed by the Kisumu County government, Kibuye Market opens its doors to the public daily, starting as early as 4:00 am. The market reaches its highest level of activity on Saturdays and Sundays, drawing a lively crowd of traders and shoppers.

Traders procured food commodities from diverse regions. Dry maize originated from Trans-Nzoia (Kitale), Busia (Kenya-Uganda border), Uasin-Gishu (Eldoret), and Nandi counties. Irish potatoes were sourced from Narok, and Elgeyo-Marakwet counties (Molo), while dry beans came from Western Kenya and Uganda (Busia). Additionally, wheat was obtained from Busia (Kenya-Uganda border), while rice came from Ahero and Mwea irrigation schemes, Busia (Kenya-Uganda border (Sirare (Kenya- Tanzania border), and Pakistan. When comparing prices in Kisumu from week 1 to week 4, most commodities remained stable or experienced a decline in prices. This can be attributed to the sufficient supply of food products in the area and neighboring counties.

Table 3:	Average	Wholesale	and	Retail	Prices,	Kisumu
Region						

Product	Variety	Average w/sale price per kg				Total average	Total average retail price per kg	
		Week 1 Week 2 Week 3 Week 4		w/sale price per kg				
Dry beans	Black beans (N)ahi)	158	158	180	199	174	261	
	Green/yellow	158	158			158	205	
	Mwitemania	158	157			157	190	
	Nyayo	128	127	133	138	132	166	
	Pinto beans	147	146			146	188	
	Purple beans	138	138			138	195	
	Red kidney	152	152			152	200	
	Rosecoco	141	141	133	127	135	186	
	Wairimu	115	113	111	105	111	143	
	Yellow	148	148	151	150	149	216	
Dry maize	White maize	34	34	40	40	37	43	
	Yellow matze	37	37	50	50	44	52	
Irish potatoes	Shangi	55	56	55	53	55	75	
Rice	Ahero	120	116	140	140	128	140	
	Basmati	183	182	115	116	148	201	
	Birlani	122	122	100	99	112	144	
	Pakistan	125	124			124	145	
	Pishori grade 2	171	182	77	76	124	163	
	Sindano	179	108	180	177	159	215	
Wheat	Wheat	68	67	89	86	79	107	

Source: Daily Market Survey for the month of September 2024.

ABOUT THIS SERIES

The Food Security Portal (FSP), facilitated by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), aims to improve food security for the world's poor and increase the resilience of global food systems against food and financial crisis. The project brings together international, regional, and country-level data, news, and research aimed at meeting countries' immediate food security needs and building long-term global food security. The FSP is designed to pool information in structured ways to ensure high-quality, timely, and relevant data and to provide the opportunity for collaboration among policymakers, development professionals, and researchers.

This report is part of the FSP's efforts to monitor country-level food prices in order to improve the governments' ability to respond to and prevent food crises. It presents monthly price trends and movements for key food commodities, including dry beans, dry maize, rice, wheat, and Irish potatoes, in selected major regions and markets in Kenya.

DATA COLLECTION AND METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in the Mombasa, Nairobi, Nakuru, Eldoret, Kisumu, and Nyeri regions of Kenya. These regions comprise the key markets in major urban centers. The five selected commodities comprise the major staple foods in Kenya¹.

Data assistants, some of whom were traders, collected average daily wholesale and retail prices from the main markets of the selected regions. Data was collected daily for six days (Mondays to Saturdays) from stockists/wholesalers and traders in the morning hours.

During the last week of the month, the following qualitative data were captured:

- General observations on food prices during the month, including price variations and the lowest, highest, and prevailing wholesale and retail prices
- The source of food commodities and their availability throughout the month
- The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as government restrictions including curfews and cessation of movement, on food prices and availability (both supply and demand)
- Traders' adaptation strategies to the COVID-19 pandemic, including sourcing and selling

Additional secondary data was obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture, Kenya Government Food Security War Room (FSWR), Ministry of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries (MoALF), and Regional Agriculture Trade Intelligence Network (RATIN).

¹ NB: While the report covers wheat, consumption of that commodity in Kenya is comprised mainly of wheat products (flours, pastries, and highly processed foods) rather than raw wheat itself.

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