



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

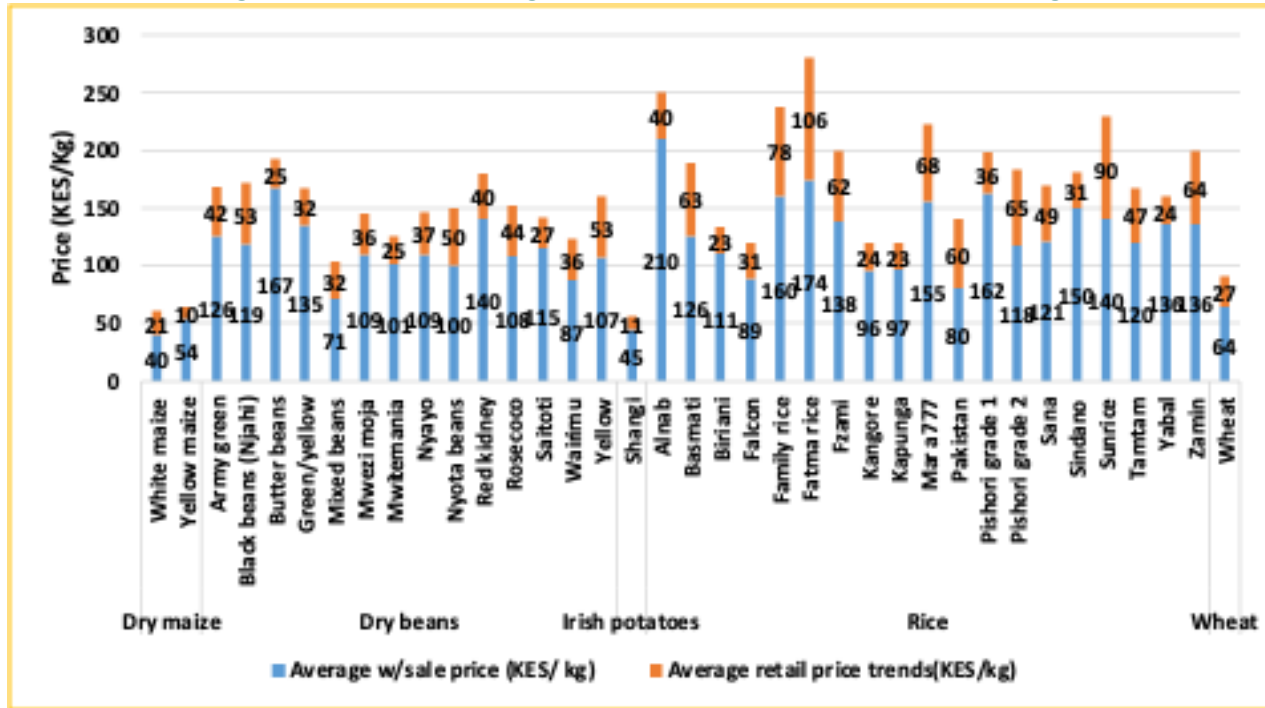
- ▶ Price disparities between wholesale and retail markets were driven by seasonal supply fluctuations, rising fuel and transport costs, and supply–demand imbalances.
- ▶ Regional price variations reflected differences in market demand, intermediary influence, and transport-related expenses.
- ▶ Stable prices in some commodities were supported by consistent local supply from producing regions.
- ▶ Dry maize prices varied across regions, with higher prices in Mombasa, Nyeri, and Kisumu due to strong demand, limited local supply, and high transport costs, while Eldoret and Nakuru recorded lower prices supported by strong local production and favorable rainfall.
- ▶ Potato prices were influenced by reduced post-harvest availability, perishability, and rising fuel-related transport costs.
- ▶ Elevated rice prices resulted from heavy reliance on imports, global market fluctuations, and inefficiencies along the local supply chain.
- ▶ Wheat prices remained high due to increased import costs, elevated handling fees, and higher production input expenses.

## Overall Wholesale and Retail Prices for September

In September 2025, Figure 1 presents the average wholesale and retail prices for key staples including maize, beans, potatoes, rice, and wheat across major markets in Kenya. Some commodities, including yellow dry maize, several dry bean varieties (Butter, Green Yellow, Mwitmania, and Saitoti), Shangi Irish potatoes, and certain rice types (Alnab, Biriani, Kangore, Kapunga, Pakistan, Pishori Grade 1, and Yabal), showed moderate price differences of about 15% to 25%. Most other food items, particularly some dry beans (Army Green, Black

beans/Njahi, Mixed, Mwezi Moja, Mwitmania, Nyayo, Red Kidney, Rosecoco, and Wairimu) as well as wheat and rice varieties (Falcon, Fatma, Fzami, Mara 777, Tamtam, and Sunrice), experienced larger disparities ranging from 26% to 45%. In contrast, a few commodities recorded even sharper variations above 46%, including white dry maize (53%), Nyota beans (50%), Yellow beans (50%), Basmati rice (50%), Family rice (49%), Pishori Grade 2 rice (55%), and Zamin rice (47%). These fluctuations in wholesale and retail prices are largely influenced by seasonal supply changes, rising fuel and transport costs, regional demand differences, dependence on imports, market inefficiencies, the role of intermediaries, and growing local consumption, all of which contribute to pressure on available supplies.

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



Source: September Price Data Monitor for the month of September 2025

## Wholesale and Retail Commodity Prices

Different bean varieties were reported across regions, with common ones including Army Green, Black Beans (Njahi), Green/Yellow, Mwitmania, Nyayo, Rosecoco, Saitoti, Yellow, Mixed, and Wairimu. Unique varieties such as Mwezi Moja and Nyota beans were found in Eldoret, while Butter Beans were only reported in Nairobi and Nakuru. Eldoret and Nakuru recorded the widest range of bean varieties since they are major production areas, while Nyeri and Kisumu had the least variety. As expected, retail prices for all bean types were higher than wholesale prices. Compared to the national average, most bean varieties in Nairobi had higher wholesale and retail prices, likely due to the city's high demand and limited local production. In contrast, Nyeri recorded lower prices than the national averages. These price differences can be explained by market factors such as the type of bean, regional supply and demand, transportation costs, and seasonal variations. For instance, Eldoret and Nakuru had lower prices because of abundant local supply, while regions with high demand, limited local production, or dependence on imports such as Kisumu experienced higher prices. According to the Soko Directory for September 2025, traders in Nairobi and other major towns noted that although prices in rural markets,

especially in producing counties such as those in the Rift Valley, Western, and parts of Eastern Kenya, tend to be lower, transport and handling costs often push up final prices in urban markets.

All regions reported having dry white maize, except Kisumu, which had both dry white and yellow maize. Compared to the national average wholesale price of 40 KES/kg and retail price of 61 KES/kg for dry white maize, Nyeri (48 KES/kg) and Kisumu (44 KES/kg) recorded the highest wholesale prices, while Mombasa (97 KES/kg) had the highest retail price. The high retail prices in Mombasa were mainly due to strong demand, limited local production, increased transport costs from producing regions, and intermediary markups. Dry maize prices were lower in Eldoret and Nakuru because these are major maize-producing regions with higher local supply and a possible surplus following a favorable 2025 long-rains season and substantial carryover stocks. The abundant rainfall between March and June in the key maize-growing areas, including Uasin Gishu and Nakuru counties, supported good production prospects for the period.

Irish potato prices were higher in Nyeri for both wholesale (52 KES/kg) and retail (65 KES/kg) compared to the average wholesale and retail prices of 45 KES/kg and 56 KES/kg respectively. Mombasa and Nakuru also recorded higher wholesale prices at 48 KES/kg and 47 KES/kg, while

Nakuru registered the highest retail price at 71 KES/kg. The higher prices observed in September may be linked to several factors, including increased demand, higher transportation costs driven by rising fuel prices, the involvement of multiple intermediaries, and seasonal supply fluctuations or climate-related effects on production. Densely populated cities such as Nairobi and Mombasa tend to experience higher prices because they are net food importers with more complex market dynamics. Nyeri and Nakuru, though major agricultural regions, may also have experienced localized price increases influenced by broader market conditions.

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All regions reported the availability of Biriani and Pishori rice, while Sindano rice was found in all regions except Nairobi, and Basmati was available in all regions except Nakuru. Mombasa also had additional varieties such as Family, Tamtam, and Sunrice while Eldoret had Falcon and Zamin. Pishori grade 1 rice recorded particularly high wholesale and retail prices in Eldoret at 180 KES/kg and 250 KES/kg respectively, and a higher wholesale price in Nairobi at 179 KES/kg, compared to the national average wholesale and retail prices of 162 KES/kg and 198 KES/kg. For Sindano rice, which had average wholesale and retail prices of 150 KES/kg and 181 KES/kg, higher wholesale prices were observed in Eldoret, Kisumu, and Mombasa at 152 KES/kg, 170 KES/kg, and 156 KES/kg respectively.

Retail prices in the same regions were also higher at 203 KES/kg, 195 KES/kg, and 185 KES/kg. Rice prices were likely higher in Nairobi, Eldoret, Kisumu, and Mombasa in September 2025 due to a combination of rising transport costs from higher fuel prices, increased demand in these major cities, the depreciation of the Kenyan shilling affecting import costs, and possible seasonal supply gaps. These factors together contributed to a more expensive supply chain and higher consumer prices in urban markets.

Eldoret (78 KES/kg), Nairobi (67 KES/kg), and Mombasa (78 KES/kg) recorded higher wholesale prices for wheat compared to the national average of 64 KES/kg for dry wheat. Similarly, retail prices in Eldoret (100 KES/kg), Mombasa (97 KES/kg), and Nakuru (100 KES/kg) were above the national average of 91 KES/kg. The higher dry wheat prices observed in September 2025 in Nairobi, Eldoret, Nakuru, and Mombasa can be linked to a mix of factors, including rising fuel costs that increased transportation expenses, higher demand in populous urban centers, greater reliance on more expensive imports, and reduced domestic production as farmers shifted to alternative crops. Although Kenya relies heavily on imports to meet its wheat demand, Eldoret, a key wheat-producing region, often experiences shortages and price surges because a significant share of its wheat is sold directly to millers and traders. Kisumu, on the other hand, depends largely on supplies from other regions and faces high demand, contributing to elevated prices. Other factors influencing prices in these areas include limited supply, high transportation and storage costs, intermediary markups, increased local milling expenses, and broader economic pressures such as inflation. According to the East Africa ePaper (September 2025), many Kenyan wheat farmers are increasingly abandoning the crop, deepening the national supply gap. Farmers are turning into more profitable alternatives such as barley and canola due to rising fertilizer and input costs that make wheat farming less viable. Poor domestic pricing and delays in the government-led wheat purchase program for the 2025/2026 season have further discouraged planting. Persistent challenges, including low yields, limited mechanization, and poor post-harvest management, continue to weaken local production and threaten the long-term sustainability of the wheat sector.

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

Product	Variety	Average wholesale price (KES/kg)						Average retail price (KES/kg)			
		Eldoret	Kisumu	Mombasa	Nairobi	Nakuru	Nyeri	Eldoret	Kisumu	Mombasa	Nairobi
Dry beans	Amy green	130		155		126	93	180		200	
	Black beans (Njahi)	118	162	114	160	76	82	187	277	133	175
	Butter beans				189	144					209
	Green/yellow	124		150	157	126	117	180		162	170
	Mixed beans	65	65	75		70	81	76	150	100	
	Mwezi moja	109							145		
	Mwilemania	117		100	140	65	80	150		122	160
	Nyayo	103	88	94	141	120		140	160	121	160
	Nyota beans	100						150			
	Red kidney					140					
	Rosecoco	110	104	77	150	109	97	180	170	150	170
	Sailoti	101		99	140	120		140		117	160
Wasimu	80	83	100	101	70	90	120	160	125	120	
Yellow	110	133	120		80	91	150	250	150		
Dry maize	White maize	37	44	39	38	33	48	50	50	97	50
	Yellow maize		54					53	58		
Irish potatoes	Shangi	39	40	48	47	42	52	45	44	58	53
Rice	Ainab					210					
	Basmati	150	84	140	133		126	219	160	253	152
	Binani	110	170	102	98	91	96	154	175	112	120
	Faloon	89						120			
	Family rice			160						238	
	Fatma rice	168		180				280		279	
	Fzami	138						200			
	Kangore						96				
	Kapunga						97				
	Mara 777			160		150				275	
	Pakistan		64				96		160		
	Pishori grade 1	180		151	179	173	136	250		181	199
	Pishori grade 2	137	100					200	165		
	Sana	148				125	90	220			
	Sindano	152	170	156		135	136	203	195	185	
	Sunrice			140						230	
	Tamtam			120						167	
	Yabal					136					
Zamin	136						200				
Wheat	Wheat	78	50	78	67	60	52	100	90	97	81

Source: Daily Market Survey for the month of September 2025

## Wholesale and Retail Price Trends by Region

Between weeks one and four, dry bean prices in Eldoret showed mixed trends, with periods of stability and a few notable changes. The presence of beans on the market in September, even though the main harvest was not yet complete, indicates a steady supply from different growing seasons and regions across Kenya. At the wholesale level, Army Green, Mwitemania, Nyota, Rosecoco, and yellow beans maintained stable prices, while Black beans (Njahi) and Wairimu declined by 15% and 0.5% respectively. Green Yellow, Mixed, Mwezi Moja, Nyayo, and Saitoti beans recorded price increases ranging from 2.5% to 5%. At the retail level, most beans remained stable, with Black beans declining by 14%, while Mixed and Mwezi Moja increased by 20% and 7% respectively. Dry maize and wheat prices remained generally stable at both wholesale and retail levels. Shangi Irish potatoes, however, showed notable increases across the weeks, rising by 22% in wholesale prices and 15% in retail prices. Most rice varieties maintained stable prices, except for Basmati, which recorded a 2% increase in both wholesale and retail prices. Biriani rice declined by 13% and 5% for wholesale and retail prices respectively, while Pishori 2 experienced a slight 1% increase in wholesale price. In Eldoret, dry maize and wheat prices remained steady in September 2025, supported by consistent local supply from the harvest season. In contrast, Irish potato prices rose due to higher demand, increased transport costs, and their perishable nature in urban markets.

A review of food commodity prices in Kisumu between week one and week four shows relative stability, with only a few notable changes. Most dry bean varieties maintained stable prices, except for black beans (Njahi), which recorded significant declines of 22% in wholesale and 46% in retail prices. White dry maize remained stable at both levels, while yellow dry beans decreased by 4% in wholesale and 8% in retail prices. Shangi Irish potatoes showed slight movements, dropping and rising marginally by 1% in wholesale and retail prices respectively. Rice varieties largely maintained stable prices, except for Basmati, which declined by 9%, Pishori 2, which rose by 3%, and Sindano, which fell by 5%. Dry wheat recorded a notable decrease of 11% in wholesale and 20% in retail prices. The overall stability or decline in dry maize, dry beans, and dry wheat prices in Kisumu between week one and week four of September 2025 was likely supported by a sufficient and steady local supply from harvests within Kisumu and nearby counties.

In the Mombasa region, a comparison of prices between week one and week four showed that most food commodities maintained stable wholesale prices, with only a few experiencing slight declines or increases. Retail prices reflected a mix of stability, decreases, and increases. All available dry bean varieties maintained stable wholesale prices except for black beans (Njahi) and green yellow

## FOCUS ON MAIZE ACROSS SELECTED REGIONS

Maize remains a cornerstone of Kenya's agriculture, playing a crucial role in food security and contributing significantly to the national economy. It is grown widely across regions such as the Rift Valley, Western Kenya, Nyanza, Central Kenya, and parts of Eastern Kenya. Uasin Gishu and Trans-Nzoia counties stand out as Kenya's breadbasket because of their large-scale maize and wheat production, which supplies much of the country's grain needs.

Even with its importance, the maize sector in Kenya faces a range of challenges. Price fluctuations are common, influenced by erratic weather, market speculation, and inconsistent government policies on imports and exports. Post-harvest losses caused by limited storage facilities and pest attacks also affect profitability, particularly for small-scale farmers and traders. High transportation costs in rural production zones further drive-up marketing expenses.

Traders often struggle to access stable markets and timely information, making it difficult to set fair prices and make informed business decisions. Complicated licensing processes and unpredictable trade policies add to these challenges. Competition from both local and imported maize also reduces profit margins and increases market uncertainty.

In September 2025, wholesale maize prices in Nyeri and Kisumu were slightly above the national average, driven by strong consumer demand, seasonal supply fluctuations, and higher marketing costs. On the other hand, Eldoret, Mombasa, Nairobi, and Nakuru recorded relatively lower wholesale prices, reflecting increased local supply from the approaching bumper harvest, ongoing government restocking, and the usual differences between urban and rural market dynamics. Mombasa recorded higher retail prices compared to other regions. The rise in retail prices for dry maize in Mombasa during September 2025 was mainly due to increased transportation costs from production zones, strong urban demand, a temporary supply gap, and intermediary mark-ups. Since Mombasa is not a major maize-producing region, its prices tend to be more sensitive to logistics and regional market factors.

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

Regions	Average Wholesale price (KES/kg)	Average Retail price (KES/kg)	Total average Wholesale price (KES/kg)	Total average Retail price (KES/kg)
Eldoret	37	50	40	61
Kisumu	44	50		
Mombasa	39	97		
Nairobi	38	50		
Nakuru	33	60		
Nyeri	48	60		

Source: Daily Market Survey for the month of September 2025.

beans, which rose by 16% and 11% respectively. Retail prices for beans showed a mix of stability, declines, and increases. Dry maize recorded notable price increases of 20% at wholesale and 14% at retail levels, while Shangi Irish potatoes saw slight declines of 4% and 5% in wholesale and retail prices respectively. Most rice varieties remained stable at wholesale level, except for Biriani, which declined slightly by 0.2%, and Pishori 1, which increased by 1%. Retail rice prices showed mixed movements, with declines ranging from 2% to 12% and increases between 0.3% and 10%. Dry wheat maintained stable wholesale prices but declined by 4% at the retail level. The overall stability in dry beans, rice, and wheat prices in September 2025 was likely supported by sufficient supply from both local harvests and imports. Meanwhile, maize prices increased due to higher demand in the non-producing coastal region, and the slight decline in Irish potato prices was driven by surplus supplies from major producing regions such as Kirinyaga, Trans Nzoia, and Bomet, as well as imports from Tanzania and Rwanda.

In Nairobi, food prices between week one and week four showed a mix of stability, slight increases, and minor declines in wholesale prices, while most retail prices remained unchanged with only a few variations. Wholesale prices for most dry bean varieties including black beans (Njahi), Butter, Nyayo, and Saitoti declined slightly, ranging between 1% and 4%. Mwitemania and Rosecoco recorded small increases of 0.4% and 2% respectively, while Wairimu maintained stable prices. At the retail level, most dry bean varieties such as green yellow, Mwitemania, Nyayo, Rosecoco, Saitoti, and Wairimu remained stable. However, black beans (Njahi) and Butter beans dropped by 4% and 1% respectively. Dry maize prices declined by 3% at the wholesale level and remained steady at retail. Shangi Irish potatoes recorded a significant rise of 20% for wholesale and 30% for retail. Similarly, dry wheat prices rose slightly by 1% and 3% for wholesale and retail respectively. For rice, all available varieties including Basmati, Biriani, and Pishori grade 1 increased by 1%, 3%, and 1% respectively at the wholesale level. Retail prices for Basmati and Pishori grade 1 rose by 5% and 3% respectively, while Biriani remained unchanged. The increase in prices for Irish potatoes, dry wheat, and rice in Nairobi during September 2025 can be attributed to high demand, rising fuel costs affecting transport, and reliance on imports. For Irish potatoes, these factors combined with seasonal supply fluctuations and a high concentration of intermediaries contributed to the higher prices observed in the capital.

A comparison of prices between week one and week four in Nakuru showed mixed trends, with most food commodities remaining stable in both wholesale and retail markets. Wholesale prices for dry beans, including Nyayo, Red Kidney, Saitoti, Wairimu, and Yellow beans, were stable,

while black beans (Njahi) declined by 13%. In contrast, Butter, Army Green, Green Yellow, and Rosecoco beans recorded increases ranging between 1% and 20%. At the retail level, most dry bean varieties remained stable except for Njahi, which dropped significantly by 20%. Butter, Green Yellow, and Rosecoco increased within a range of 8% to 15%. Maize prices declined by 10% for wholesale and remained stable for retail. Shangi Irish potatoes rose sharply by 11% for wholesale and 16% for retail, while wheat prices remained unchanged in both markets. All rice varieties had stable wholesale and retail prices except for Biriani, which increased by 11% and 8%, and Pishori grade 1, which declined by 6% and 9% for wholesale and retail respectively. The stability in dry bean, maize, and wheat prices in Nakuru can be attributed to the county's strong production capacity and adequate supply following the September harvest. In contrast, potato prices rose due to high demand, limited local supply, and perishability, a common challenge for fresh produce in urban centers.

A comparison of wholesale and retail prices in Nyeri between week one and week four showed that most food commodities remained stable, with only a few recordings slight declines or increases. At the wholesale level, all dry beans including Njahi, Green Yellow, Mixed, and yellow beans maintained stable prices, except for Mwitemania, which declined by 1%. Army Green, Rosecoco, and Wairimu increased slightly, ranging between 2% and 3%. Dry maize prices were stable, Shangi Irish potatoes declined by 5%, while wheat increased by 7%. All available rice varieties remained stable except for Kapunga rice, which recorded a 2% increase. A similar pattern was observed in retail prices. The overall stability of food prices in Nyeri can be attributed to a consistent supply of produce within the county, supported by additional inflows from neighboring food-producing regions.

## Comparison of National Average Prices between August and September

When comparing national average prices for key commodities between August and September 2025, most wholesale and retail prices remained stable, while a few recorded moderate declines (see Table 2). Most commodities showed minimal price movements within the range of  $\leq 2\%$  and  $> -2\%$ , whereas others experienced more notable decreases ranging from  $-2\%$  to  $-20\%$ . Irish potatoes recorded the most significant price increases, with wholesale and retail prices rising by 16% and 20% respectively, largely due to high demand and limited supply. Overall price stability was supported by strong domestic production across major agricultural regions, complemented by consistent imports from neighboring East African countries such as Uganda, Tanzania, and Rwanda,

as well as international suppliers including Pakistan, Thailand, and India. These combined sources helped maintain steady market conditions and ease supply pressures.

**Table 2: Comparison of August and September prices**

Product	Variety	Average Wholesale Price (Kes/Kg)			Average Retail Price (Kes/ Kg)		
		Aug-25	Sep-25	Percentage change	Aug-25	Sep-25	Percentage change
Dry beans	Army green	124	126	2%	168	168	0%
	Black beans (Njahi)	128	119	-8%	183	172	-8%
	Butter beans	161	167	4%	188	192	2%
	Green/yellow	190	195	4%	165	167	1%
	Mixed beans	73	71	-3%	104	103	-1%
	Mwezi moja	107	109	2%	140	145	3%
	Mwiternia	102	101	-1%	125	126	1%
	Nyayo	109	109	0%	147	146	-1%
	Nyota beans	102	100	-2%	150	150	0%
	Red kidney	140	140	0%	180	180	0%
	Rosacoco	107	108	1%	151	152	1%
	Saitoti	107	115	7%	137	142	4%
Wairimu	87	87	0%	121	123	2%	
Yellow	110	107	-3%	163	160	-2%	
Dry maize	White maize	43	40	-8%	69	61	-13%
	Yellow maize	52	54	4%	77	64	-20%
Irish potatoes	Shangi	38	45	16%	45	56	20%
Rice	Alnab	210	210	0%	250	250	0%
	Basmati	126	126	0%	178	189	6%
	Biriani	113	111	-2%	135	134	-1%
	Family rice	160	160	0%	264	238	-11%
	Fatma rice	165	174	8%	265	250	-6%
	Fzami	138	138	0%	200	200	0%
	Kangore	96	96	0%	120	120	0%
	Kapunga	96	97	1%	120	120	0%
	Pakistan	118	125	6%	137	140	2%
	Pishori grade 1	162	162	0%	196	198	1%
	Pishori grade 2	118	118	0%	181	183	1%
	Sana	122	121	-1%	170	170	0%
	Sindano	150	150	0%	184	181	-2%
	Sunrice	140	140	0%	208	190	-9%
Tamtam	120	120	0%	184	167	-10%	
Yabal	137	136	-1%	160	160	0%	
Zamin	196	196	0%	200	200	0%	
Wheat	Wheat	65	64	-2%	95	91	-4%
		≤2 but ≥-2		Stable			
		≥-2 but <-20		Significant Decrease			
		≥2 but <10		Slight increase			
		≥11 but <25		Increase			

Source: Daily Market Survey for the month of September 2025

## Outlook for the Month of October

- ▶ In October 2025, food prices across Mombasa, Nairobi, Kisumu, Eldoret, Nakuru, and Nyeri are expected to remain generally stable, with a few commodities showing slight increases or decreases depending on harvest timing, regional supply, and transport costs.
- ▶ **Dry Maize:** Prices are expected to stay stable or decline slightly as fresh supplies from the main harvest in Trans Nzoia, Uasin Gishu, and Nandi reach the markets. Continued inflows from Uganda and Tanzania are likely to support availability. However, in Mombasa, maize prices may remain slightly higher due to the cost of transportation from inland producing areas.
- ▶ **Dry Beans:** Prices may hold steady or increase slightly in urban markets such as Nairobi and Mombasa, where demand remains high. In producing regions like Eldoret, Nyeri, and Nakuru, prices could ease a little as new harvests become available.
- ▶ **Rice:** Prices are likely to remain stable, supported by good harvests from the Mwea and Ahero irrigation schemes and consistent imports from Pakistan, India, and Thailand. Any changes are expected to be minor and mainly influenced by exchange rate movements or import costs.
- ▶ **Irish Potatoes:** Prices are expected to remain steady or decline slightly as supply improves from producing areas such as Nakuru, Nyandarua (Kinangop), and Elgeyo Marakwet. Nevertheless, consumers in Nairobi and Mombasa may continue to pay more because of higher transport, handling, and storage costs.
- ▶ **Dry Wheat:** Prices may rise slightly because of lower domestic production and increased dependence on imported wheat. Higher global prices and shipping costs could contribute to this trend, especially in urban markets like Mombasa and Nairobi.
- ▶ Overall, maize, rice, and Irish potatoes are expected to provide price stability in October, supported by improved local supply. In contrast, wheat and some bean varieties may experience moderate upward pressure, keeping food prices relatively firm in a few urban markets.

## FOCUS ON KISUMU REGION

Kisumu, located in western Kenya along the shores of Lake Victoria, the largest freshwater lake in Africa, is the country's third-largest city after Nairobi and Mombasa. Within the Lake Victoria Basin, it ranks third in size after Mwanza in Tanzania and Kampala in Uganda.

Although Kisumu is a key market hub, it continues to face challenges such as food insecurity and low agricultural productivity. Nonetheless, its strategic location offers favorable conditions for both agriculture and aquaculture. The Kano Plains in Kisumu County are especially known for irrigated rice farming. The northern and eastern edges of the plains areas such as Kibos, Miwani, and Chemelil host some of Kenya's most productive sugarcane farms. The county also plays a vital role in supplying fresh produce including vegetables, poultry, beans, sweet potatoes, and maize.

Kibuye Market is one of the main commercial centers in Kisumu and among the largest open-air markets in Eastern and Central Africa. It serves as a key hub for price monitoring and commodity distribution across Kisumu's sub-counties and neighboring counties within the Nyanza region. The market handles both wholesale and retail transactions under the management of the Kisumu County Government. It operates daily from as early as 4:00 a.m., with trading peaking on Saturdays and Sundays when many traders and buyers converge.

Food commodities at Kibuye Market are sourced from diverse regions. Dry maize comes from Trans Nzoia, Busia (along the Kenya-Uganda border), Uasin Gishu, and Nandi. Irish potatoes are mainly delivered from Narok and Elgeyo Marakwet, while dry beans are supplied from Western Kenya and Uganda. Wheat is also imported through Busia from Uganda, and rice comes from Ahero and Mwea irrigation schemes, Busia, Sirare (on the Kenya-Tanzania border), and even Pakistan.

Over a four-week period, prices of most food commodities in Kisumu remained largely stable, with only slight fluctuations in black beans (Njahi), dry yellow maize, and wheat. This stability reflects a consistent and reliable food supply from Kisumu and neighboring producing regions.

**Table 3: Average Wholesale and Retail Prices, Kisumu Region**

Product	Variety	Average retail price (KES/kg)				Total average wholesale price (KES/kg)	Total average retail price (KES/kg)
		Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4		
Dry beans	Black beans (Njahi)	350	247	190	277	162	277
	Mixed beans	150	150	150	150	65	150
	Nyayo	160	160	160	160	88	160
	Rosecoco	170	170	170	170	104	170
	Waurimu	160	160	160	160	83	160
	Yellow	250	250	250	250	133	250
Dry maize	White maize	50	50	50	50	44	50
	Yellow maize	60	58	55	58	54	58
Irish potatoes	Shangi	47	44	42	44	40	44
Rice	Basmati	160	150	160	160	84	160
	Birani	175	175	175	175	170	175
	Pakistan	160	160	160	160	64	160
	Pishori grade 2	163	168	168	165	100	165
	Sindano	200	190	190	195	170	195
Wheat	White	100	83	80	90	50	90

Source: Daily Market Survey for the month of September 2025.

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## 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.

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## 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 Kenya<sup>1</sup>.

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).

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<sup>1</sup> 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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## REFERENCES

East Africa ePaper September 2025, Why Kenya's wheat farmers are ditching the crop. <https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/business-tech/why-kenya-s-wheat-farmers-are-ditching-the-crop-5198394>

Soko Directory, September 2025, A Look at The Current Prices of Various Bean Varieties in Kenya. [Sokodirectory.com/2025/09/a-look-at-the-current-prices-of-various-bean-varieties-in-kenya/](https://www.sokodirectory.com/2025/09/a-look-at-the-current-prices-of-various-bean-varieties-in-kenya/). Accessed October 2025