

The Market Monitor

WFP VAM | Food Security Analysis

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Highlights



The costs of food baskets were affected 'severely' in 20 countries in Q2-2020, during which the COVID-19 pandemic has played a major role. Most notably, despite massive income losses, strong demand resulting from stockpiling in combination with disrupted trade flows led to steep increases in staple food prices in Tajikistan, Bangladesh, Nige..



Other key drivers behind surging food prices included: depreciating local currencies (Lebanon, Syria, Sudan, Angola); panic-buying (Libya, Nicaragua, Honduras, Haiti, Kyrgyzstan); and high seasonal demand (Ghana).

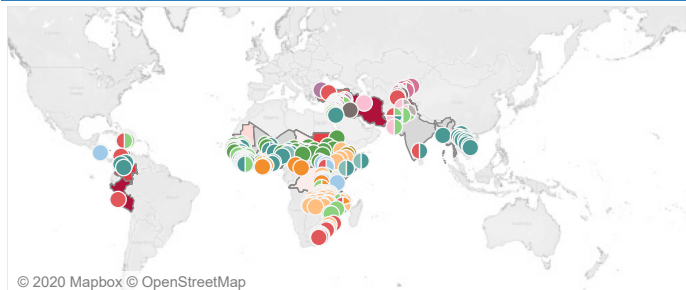
[Food price trends: View more](#)



Amid the escalating economic and political crisis, Lebanon recorded a staggering quarter-on-quarter food inflation of 93.1% in Q2-2020, a steep increase from 12% in Q1. Headline and food inflation in Zimbabwe rose further during Q2, reaching 73.6% and 81%, respectively. The Syrian pound continued to lose value in the informal excha..

[Inflation and currency: View more](#)

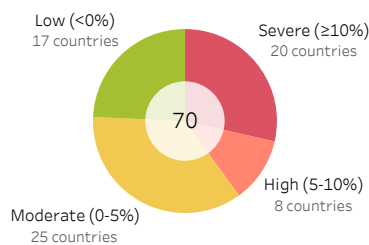
Food Price Hotspots - Alert for Price Spikes



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[Alert for Price Spikes indicator: View more](#)

Impact of Staple Food Price Trends on Cost of the Food Basket



The cost of the basic food basket increased severely (>10 percent) in **twenty** countries during Q2-2020: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, and Thailand.

[Food basket cost changes: View more](#)

International Prices

Global Indices

The FAO Food Price Index decreased by 6.8% in Q2-2020 compared to the previous quarter, mainly led by falling prices of vegetable oils and sugar.

Cereal Prices

Wheat

Real wheat prices held stable, with the US No 2 Hard Red Winter reference price slightly decreasing by 2.2% between the first and second quarter of 2020.

[Global cereal market: View more](#)

Fuel Prices

Badly hit by the COVID-19 crisis, the oil price plunged in Q2-2020 with global demand drying up. Widespread lockdowns led to over 50% year-on-year decrease in its quarterly ..

[Fuel prices: View more](#)