

Afghanistan

Countrywide Weekly Market Price Bulletin



vam
food security analysis

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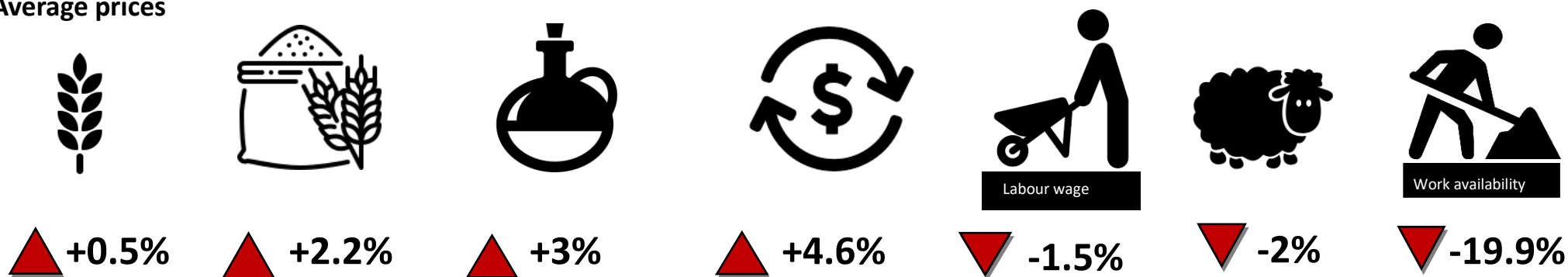
29 August 2021

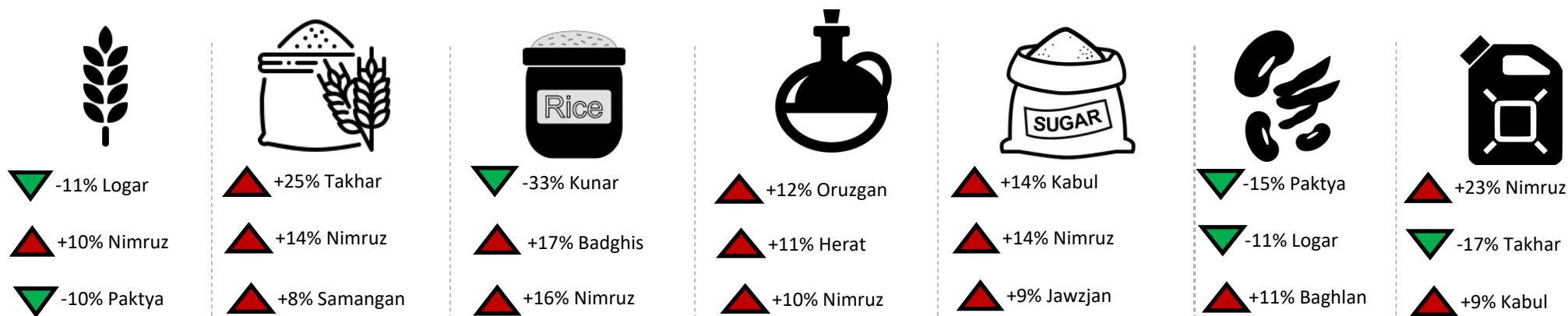
Highlights

- This week, Price of most food items climbed due to uncertain current situation.
- Political instability and demand pressure for foreign currencies led to exchange rate increases by 4.6% .
- As most of the basic foods are imported, any drop in the value of the Afghani led to an increase in food prices
- Work opportunities drastically declined by nearly 20% across the country.
- Both ToTs continued to deteriorate as a result of decline in labour wage and sheep price

Main Food Commodities/Food Access indicators	4th Week of August 2021	Price/rate Changes (%)			
		COVID-19 impact on price (2nd week Mar-20)	Compared to 3rd week of August 2021		
WHEAT (Kg)	32.7	29.2	▲	0.5	▶
WHEAT FLOUR - High price (Kg)	40.0	26.2	▲	2.2	▶
WHEAT FLOUR - Low price (Kg)	36.0	26.0	▲	1.2	▶
RICE HIGH QAULITY (Kg)	93.9	15.9	▲	0.2	▶
RICE LOW QAULITY (Kg)	54.2	31.9	▲	-0.8	▶
COOKING OIL (Kg)	156.2	103.4	▲	3.0	▶
PULSES (Kg)	98.1	34.1	▲	0.1	▶
SALT (Kg)	13.9	18.1	▲	0.0	▶
SUGAR (Kg)	56.1	34.7	▲	0.8	▶
DIESEL (LITER)	58.0	29.1	▲	0.1	▶
ONE YEAR ALIVE FEMALE SHEEP (HEAD)	7886.8	5.9	▲	-2.0	▶
LABOUR UNSKILLED/DAY	300.9	4.4	▲	-1.5	▶
LABOUR SKILLED/DAY	626.0	8.9	▲	0.2	▶
# OF DAYS WORK AVAILABLE/WEEK	1.7	-40.6	▼	-19.9	▶
EXCHANGE RATE	91.0	20.7	▲	4.6	▶
CASUAL LABOUR/WHEAT	9.2	-20.2	▼	-2.2	▶
PASTORALIST TOT	241.9	-20.1	▼	-2.5	▶

Average prices





Number of days work is available: work opportunities drastically declined this week by 20% at national level. While many people are trying to pass the borders and leave the country due to negative expectation about the future, political chaos, absence of government—based works and financial restrictions in banking system exacerbated the current unemployment crisis. There were 5 provinces with no work opportunity while the number of work available days doesn't exceeds from 1 day per week in at least 8 other provinces including Kabul.

Casual Labour/Wheat ToT

Casual labour/ wheat ToT dropped this week and hit new record low at 9.2 remark. Declined labour wages combined with recent rise in the price of wheat contributed to the minimum purchasing power in the last 2 years. ToT decreased by 2.2% compared to last week at national level, which is 16% below the number at the same time in 2020. ToT mainly declined in Badghis by 35%, followed by 17% decline in Badakhshan and Daykundi due to reduction of work opportunities and significant fall in unskilled labour wages. At the same time, ToT improved in Ghor (13%), Logar(12%) and Paktya (11%) as the result of decreased price of wheat in these provinces.

Pastoralist ToT

pastoralist ToT also deteriorated this week by around 2.5% at national level. Earlier this month Pastoralist ToT had dopped and this is the sixth consecutive week of decline in pastoralist ToT in the past two months. Besides considerable rise in the price of food items, drought and political uncertainty are the factors that exhausted the purchasing power in rural areas.

This week the price of sheep significantly dropped in 3 provinces including Herat, by more than 15% and led the pastoralist ToT to considerably decline in those provinces.