

Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) - Afghanistan

Initial Market Price Bulletin for the month of December 2017 (Reported in January 2018)

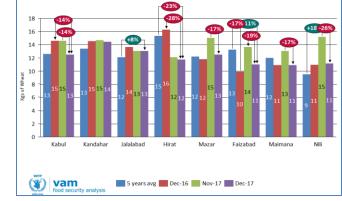
HIGHLIGHTS:

- Wheat: The current average wheat price in main cities' markets of Afghanistan (AFN 23.7/Kg) is negligibly lower by 0.2% compared to the same time last year (December 2016) and negligibly higher by 1.1% compared to the last 5-year average price of the same months (Decembers 2012 2016).
- Wheat flour (High Price): The current retail price (AFN 28.0/kg) is slightly lower by 3.9% compared to the same month last year (December 2016), and slightly lower by 6.7% compared to the last 5-year average price of the same months.
- Rice is considered as the 2nd main staple food in Afghanistan. The current average retail price of Low Quality Rice (AFN 44.8/kg) is slightly higher by 7.0% compared to the same month last year (December 2016), and slightly higher by 3.8% compared to the last 5-year average price of the same months. The current average price of High Quality Rice (AFN 87.2/kg) is significantly higher by 14.8% compared to the same month last year (December 2016), and slightly higher by 7.1% compared to the last 5-year average price of the same months.
- **Pulses:** The current retail price (AFN 86.4kg) is significantly higher by 11.7% compared to the same month last year (December 2016), and significantly higher by 31.9% compared to the last 5-year average price of the same months.

Terms of Trade (ToT)

<u>Casual Labor and Wheat (ToT):</u> The Terms of Trade (ToT) between casual Labor and wheat is a proxy indicator or the purchasing capacity of households mainly relying on casual labor as main income, and purchase of wheat in the market. This ToT reveals how many Kilograms of wheat can be purchased with one- day casual unskilled labor wage, but does not say how many days a month a laborer can get to cover the family food needs.

Labor wage/Wheat average ToT for the reporting month was 12.2 Kgs of Wheat. On average, this ToT significantly deteriorated (by 12.6%) from November to December 2017, mainly due to decreased labor wage by 11.9% and increased wheat price by 1.0%. The highest deterioration occurred in Nili (by 26.5%), Faizabad (by 19.4%), Mazar and Maimana (16.7%) and Kabul (14.3%) due to decreased labor wage. The variations in all other remaining main city markets were within normal range (-3.1% to 0.0%). In the last three proceeding years, this deterioration was experienced in;



Casual labor/Wheat ToT in main urban cities of Afghanistan

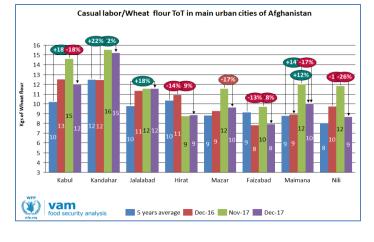
- November to December 2016 (by 1.8%)
- November to December 2015 (by 4.2%)
- November to December 2014 (by 3.1%)
- In comparison to the same month one year ago (December 2016), this ToT slightly deteriorated by 5.1%, mainly due to decreased labor wage (by 3.6%).
- On the two-year comparison (December 2015), this ToT significantly improved by 13.2%.
- Compared to the 5-year average of the same months (Decembers 2012-2016), this ToT slightly deteriorated 3.0%.

<u>Casual Labor and High Price Wheat flour (ToT):</u> The Terms of Trade (ToT) between casual Labor and High Price Wheat Flour is a proxy indicator or the purchasing capacity of households mainly relying on casual labor as main income, and purchase of Wheat Flour

in the market. This ToT reveals how many Kilograms of Wheat Flour (HP) can be purchased with one-day casual unskilled labor wage, but does not say how many days a month a laborer can get to cover the family food needs.

Labor wage/Wheat flour (HP) average ToT for the reporting month was 10.5 Kgs of Wheat flour which significantly deteriorated (by 12.1%) from November to December 2017, mainly due to decreased labor wage by 11.9% and increased wheat flour by 0.7%. The largest deterioration occurred in Nili (by 26.5%), Faizabad (by 18.0%), Kabul (17.7%) and Mazar and



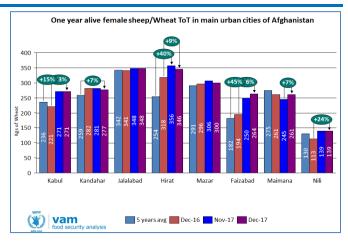


Maimana (16.7%) due to decreased labor wage. The variations in all other remaining main city markets were within normal range (-2.0% to 1.3%). In the last three proceeding years, this deterioration was experienced in;

- November to December 2016 and November to December 2014 (by 0.7%),
- November to December 2015 (by 3.7%)
- Compared to the same month one year ago (December 2016), this ToT negligibly improved by 1.2%, mainly due to decreased wheat flour price (by 3.9%).
- On the two-year comparison (December 2015), this ToT significantly improved by 20.8%.
- Compared to the 5-year average of the same months (Decembers 2012 2016), this ToT slightly improved by 8.2%.

Sheep and Wheat (ToT): The Terms of Trade between a one year old female sheep and Wheat is a proxy for the purchasing capacity of those households mainly relying on income from livestock (pastoralists). It says how many kilograms of Wheat can be obtained when selling a one year old female sheep.

Sheep/Wheat average ToT for the reporting month was 275.6Kgs of wheat against one-year alive female sheep, which negligibly improved by 0.4% from November to December 2017, mainly due to increased sheep price (by 1.5%). The largest improvement occurred in Maimana (6.7%) and Faizabad (5.5%) due to increased sheep price. The variation all other main cities markets was within normal range (-3.1% to 0.0%).



In the last three proceeding years, this improvement was not experienced, while deteriorated in;

- o November to December 2016 (by 0.9%)
- November to December 2015 (by 1.4%)
- November to December 2014 (by 4.5%)
- Compared to the same month one year ago (December 2016), this ToT slightly improved by 8.8%, which is mainly due to increased sheep price (by 11.1%) and decreased of wheat price (by 0.2%).
- On the two-year comparison (December 2015) this ToT significantly improved by 20.1%.
- Compared to 5-year average of the same months (Decembers 2012 2016), this ToT significantly improved by 12.0%.

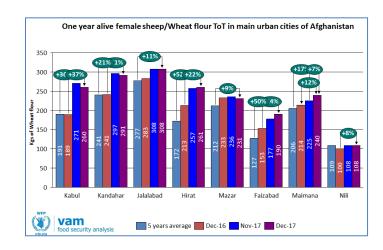
<u>Sheep and High Price Wheat flour (ToT):</u> The Terms of Trade between a one-year old female sheep and High Price Wheat Flour is a proxy for the purchasing capacity of those households mainly relying on income from livestock (pastoralists). It says how many kilograms of Wheat Flour (HP) can be obtained when selling a one-year old female sheep.

Sheep-Wheat flour (HP) average ToT for the reporting month was 236.1Kgs of Wheat flour against one-year alive female sheep,

which negligibly improved by 0.6% from November to December 2017, mainly due to increased sheep price (by 1.5%). The largest improvement occurred in Faizabad (7.4%) and Maimana (6.7%) due to increased sheep price in both Mazar and Maimana. The variation in all other markets was within normal range (-4.0% to 1.3%).

In the last three proceeding years, this improvement were experienced in;

- November to December 2016 (by 0.2%)
- November to December 2015 (by 0.3%)





While deteriorated in;

- November to December 2014 (by 1.5%)
- Compared to the same month one year ago (December 2016), this ToT significantly improved by 16.1%, mainly due to increased sheep price (by 11.1%) and decreased wheat flour price (by 3.9%).
- On the two-year comparison (December 2015), this ToT significantly improved by 27.3%.
- Compared to 5-year average of the same months (Decembers 2012 2016), this ToT significantly improved by 23.1%.

Retail Price of Wheat Grain in Main Urban Cities:

- The monthly average price of Wheat in main cities' markets of Afghanistan was AFN 23.7/Kg in December 2017. Compared to the past month (November 2017), the average price negligibly increased by 1.0%. The variation in all main cities was within a normal limit (0.0% to 3.4 %). In the last three proceeding years, this increase was experienced in;
 - November to December 2016 and November to December 2014 (by 1.1%),
 - November to December 2015 (by 1.3%)
- Compared to the same month one year ago (December 2016), the average wheat price negligibly decreased by 0.2%. The largest decrease only occurred only Nili (by 12.5%) due to more supply and increase occurred in Hirat (by 15.3%) and Kandahar (14.9%) due to decrease of supply from the source points. The variation in all other main cities was within a normal range (-9.9% to 4.5%).
- On the two-year comparison (December 2015), the average price slightly decreased by 3.8%.
- Compared to the last 5-year average price of the same months (Decembers 2012 2016), the average price negligibly increased by 1.1%.

Retail Price of Wheat flour in Main Urban Cities:

Wheat flour (High Price):

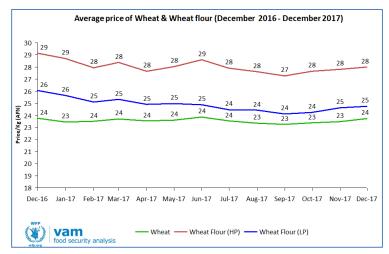
The monthly average price of Wheat flour (High Price) in main cities' markets was AFN **28.0**/Kg in the reporting month (December 2017). The average price negligibly increased by 0.7% compared to the previous month (November 2017). The variation in all main cities was within a normal limit (-1.3% to 4.2%). In the last three proceeding years, this increase was only experienced,

November to December 2016(by 0.1%)
 While the price decreased during;

- o November to December 2015 (by 0.3%)
- November to December 2014 (by 1.7%)



- Compared to the same month last year (December 2016), the current average price slightly decreased by 3.9%. The highest decrease occurred in Kabul and Maimana (by 10.7%) due to increased supply of wheat flour. The variation in other main cities was within a normal range (-3.7% to 2.5%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (December 2015), the average price of wheat flour slightly decreased by 7.8%.
- Compared to 5-year average price of the same months (Decembers 2012 - 2016), the average price slightly decreased by 6.7%.



Wheat flour (Low Price):

The monthly average price of Wheat flour (Low Price) in main cities' markets was AFN **24.7**/Kg in the reporting month (December 2017). The average price negligibly increased 0.4% compared to previous month (November 2017). The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (-0.6 % to 3.2%). In the last three proceeding years, this increase was experienced in;

o November to December 2015 and November to December 2014 (by 0.1%)

While decrease only in;

- November to December 2016 (by 0.4%)
- Compared to the same month one year ago (December 2016), the current average price slightly decreased by 5.1%. The highest decrease only occurred in Maimana (by 20.0%) due to increased supply of wheat flour, the variation in all other remaining main cities was within a normal range (-8.6% to 2.0%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (December 2015), the average price slightly decreased by 8.6%.
- Compared to 5-year average price of the same months (Decembers 2012 2016), the average price slightly decreased by 6.9%.

Retail Price of Rice in Main Urban Cities:

Rice (High Quality):

- The monthly average price of Rice (High Quality) in main cities' markets was AFN **87.2**/Kg in the reporting month (December 2017) which slightly increased by 2.4% compared to the previous month (November 2017). The highest increase only occurred in Hirat (by 5.7%) due to decreased supply of from source of point (India). The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (0.0% to 4.4%). In the last three proceeding years, this increase was only experienced in;
 - November to December 2016 (by 0.3%)

While the price decreased during;

- November to December 2015 (by 1.0%)
- November to December 2014 (by 0.4%)
- Compared to the same month one year ago (December 2016), the average price significantly increased by 14.8%. The largest increase occurred in Hirat (33.0%), Kandahar (27.2%), Maimana (18.0%), Kabul (17.7%) and Mazar (16.2%), mainly due to decrease of supply and increase in prices in the source point (Pakistan). The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (2.0% to 9.9%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (December 2015), the average price significantly increased by 11.5%.



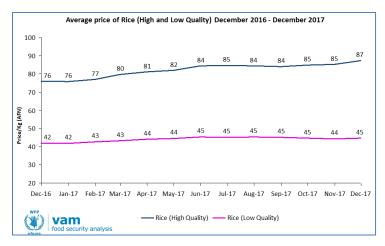
• Compared to 5-year average price of some months (Decembers 2012 - 2016), the average price slightly increased by 7.1%.

Rice (Low Quality):

- The monthly average price of Rice (Low Quality) in main cities' markets was AFN 44.8/Kg in the reporting month (December 2017), which slightly increased by 1.2% compared to the previous month (November 2017). The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (-1.9% to 4.7%). In the last three proceeding years, this increase was experienced in;
 - November to December 2015 (by 1.0%)
 - November to December 2014 (by 0.5%)

While decrease only in;

November to December 2016 (by 0.9%)



- Compared to the same month one year ago (December 2016), the average price slightly increased by 7.0 %. The largest increase occurred in Mazar (by 16.7%) and Maimana (10.8%) mainly due to increase of low quality rice price in Pakistan and Kabul. The variation in all main other cities was within a normal range (0.0% to 9.7%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (December 2015), the average price significantly increased by 11.2%.
- Compared to 5-year average price of same months (Decembers 2012 2016), the average price slightly increased by 3.8%.

Retail Price of Cooking Oil in Main Urban Cities:

- The monthly average price of cooking oil in main cities' markets was AFN **81.8**/Kg in the reporting month (December 2017), being negligibly increased by 0.5% compared to previous month (November 2017). The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (-1.6% to 2.0%). In the last three proceeding years, this increase was only experienced in;
 - November to December 2016 (by 0.3%)

While the price decreased during;

- November to December 2015 (by 0.2%)
- November to December 2014 (by 0.7%)
- Compared to the same month one year ago (December 2016), the average price negligibly increased by 1.2%. The largest increase only occurred in Kandahar (by 18.6 %), main reason for the increase was increased price of oil by the traders and decreased supply of oil from source points. The variation in all other main cities was within a normal limit (-5.6% to 2.3%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (December 2015), the average price slightly increased by 5.9%.
- Compared to 5-year average of the same months (Decembers 2012 2016), the average price negligibly increased by 1.1%.



Retail Price of Pulses, Salt, Sugar and No. of days averagely worked by a labourer:

Pulses: The monthly average price of Pulses in December 2017 in main cities' markets was AFN **86.4**/Kg negligibly decreased by 0.4% from last month (November 2017). The variation in all main cities markets was within a normal range (-2.1% to 0.8%).

- Compared to the same time last year (December 2016), the price of pulses significantly increased by 11.7%, the highest increase occurred in Maimana (25.0%), followed by Jalalabad (20.3%), Nili (17.6%), Kandahar (14.7%) and Kabul (12.9%), mainly due to decreased supply. The variation in all other main cities was within a normal limit (0.2% to 8.1%).
 - Compared to the same time two year ago (December 2015), the price of pulses significantly increased by 28.4%.
- Compared to 5-year average of the same months (Decembers 2012 2016), the prices of pulses increased significantly by 31.9%.

Salt: The monthly average price of Salt in December 2017 in main cities' markets was AFN 14.1/Kg and it remained unchanged compared to the previous month (November 2017). The current average price of salt negligibly increased by 1.3% compared to the same month last year (December 2016), and slightly increased by 1.8% compared to the same month two years ago (December 2015).

Sugar: The monthly average price of Sugar in December 2017 in main cities' markets was AFN **45.7**/Kg, being slightly decreased by 1.9% compared to the previous month (November 2017). The highest decrease occurred in Faizabad (by 5.6%) due to mainly due to increase of supply. The current average price of Sugar is significantly decreased by 15.9% compared to the same month last year (December 2016) due to increase of supply, and increased by 3.2% compared to the same month two years ago (December 2015) due to increased price in source points.

Number of days averagely worked by a labourer: The monthly average number of days worked by a laborer during December 2017 was reported at 9.1 days. The highest number of working days were in Kandahar (16 days) followed by Kabul and Hirat (12 days), Mazar and Maimana and Jalalabad (8 days), Nili (5 days) and Faizabad (4 days). Compared to the previous month (November 2017), the significant decrease occurred in Nili by 68.8% (11 days), Mazar and Maimana by 33.3% (4 day), Faizabad by 20.0% (1 day) and Kabul 7.7% (1 day) and the variation in other main cities remain unchanged.

- Compared to the same month last year (December 2016), the average number of working days slightly decreased by 8.75%(0.9 day).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (December 2015), the average number of working days for main cities slightly decreased by 6.2% (0.6 day).



Market Watch:

Markets	Major Comm	Current		rice cha	nge (%)		Ave	rage				Current		Price o	hange			verag	
		Price per Kg	5 Y Ave	2 Y	1 Y	1 M	5 Y Ave	5 Y Market Ave 2 Y 1 Y 1 M	Markets	Major Comm	Price in AFN	5 Y Ave	2 Y	1 Y	1 M	5 Y Ave 2	Y 1 Y	1.6		
	Wheat	24.0	1.1	-5.9	0.0	0.0	•	•	•	•	Livestock-One year	live Sheep (Female)								
KABUL	Wheat flour (HP)	25.0	-14.7	-15.6	-10.7	4.2	•	•	•	>	KABUL	Sheep	6,500	16.5	18.2	22.6	0.0	A A	. 🔺	-
	Rice High Quality	88.3	2.6	10.3	17.7	3.8	>	_	_	>	KANDAHAR	Sheep	7,670	20.5	37.0	12.8	0.3	A A		>
	Rice Low Qaulity	58.0	12.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	_	>	>	>	JALALABAD	Sheep	8,000	6.1	14.3	6.7	0.0	> 4		>
	Cooking Oil	76.5	-6.9	-1.9	-5.6	2.0	>	>	>	>	HIBAT	Sheep	7,360	47.9	40.9	25.3	0.0	A A		>
KANDAHAR	Wheat	27.7	12.1	5.1	14.9	1.8	_	•	A	•	MAZAR	Sheep	6,000	1.0	0.0	-4.8	-2.0	>		
	Wheat flour (HP)	26.3	-0.9	-5.5	-6.6	2.0	>	>	>	>	FAIZABAD	Sheep	6,000	42.2	33.3	22.4	9.1	A A	_	_
	Rice High Quality	81.5	12.7	16.1	27.2	1.8	_	_	_	>	MAIMANA	Sheep	6,000	-0.7	0.0	0.0	6.7	> •	>	_
	Rice Low Qaulity	32.0	12.3	17.1	5.7	0.0	_	_	>	>	NILI	Sheep	3,900	-4.2	-2.5	8.3	0.0	>		>
	Cooking Oil	90.0	29.0	21.1	18.6	0.8	_	_	_	>	Terms of Trade	Kgsd	of Wheat/Wheat flo	our						
JALALABAD	Wheat	23.0	4.3	4.5	4.5	0.0	•	•	•	•	KABUL	Casual Labor/Wheat	12.5	-0.8	21.2	-14.3	-14.3	> 4		
	Wheat flour (HP)	26.0	-4.8		-1.9	0.0	>			>	KANDAHAR	Casual Labor/Wheat	14.4	7.8		-0.6	-1.8	> 4		•
	Rice High Quality	83.5	7.3	9.9	9.9	4.4	<u> </u>		<u>-</u>	>	JALALABAD	Casual Labor/Wheat	13.0	8.1	10.4	-4.3	0.0	> 4		•
	Rice Low Qaulity	34.0	-15.6		9.7	3.0	•	_		.	HIBAT	Casual Labor/Wheat	11.7	-23.3			-3.1	V 1	, A	
	Cooking Oil	77.3	-0.3	4.4	2.3	-1.6		<u> </u>		<u>.</u>	MAZAR-	Casual Labor/Wheat	12.5	2.4		6.2		>		
HIRAT	Wheat	21.3	7.9	4.9	15.3	3.1	•	$\overline{}$	<u> </u>	Ť	FAIZABAD	Casual Labor/Wheat	11.0	-17.0	-5.7		-19.4	V		
	Wheat flour (HP)	28.3	-2.9		2.5	-1.3			.		MAIMANA	Casual Labor/Wheat	10.9	-9.4		0.0		<u> </u>		
	Rice High Quality	81.9	22.4		33.0	5.7					NILI	Casual Labor/Wheat	11.2	17.7	37.0	2.0	-26.5			·
		31.2	16.0		8.0	4.7		<u> </u>	<u> </u>		KABUL		270.8	14.7	25.6	22.6	0.0	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	•
	Rice Low Qaulity	76.1	3.2	13.9 12.9	-1.3	0.0	-				KABUL	Sheep /Wheat	276.6	7.0	30.3	-1.9	-1.5			
MAZAR	Cooking Oil						ŕ	÷	÷	÷		Sheep /Wheat	-							
	Wheat	20.0	-2.6		-5.9	0.0			<u> </u>	-	JALALABAD	Sheep //Wheat	347.8	1.7	9.3	2.0	0.0			
	Wheat flour (HP)	26.0		-10.3	-3.7	0.0		<u> </u>			HIRAT	Sheep /Wheat	345.5	35.8	34.2	8.7	-3.1			<u>.</u>
	Rice High Quality	86.0	5.0		16.2	2.4					MAZAR	Sheep //Wheat	300.0	3.2	10.0	1.2	-2.0	<u> </u>		<u>.</u>
	Rice Low Qaulity	42.0	7.4		16.7	2.4					FAIZABAD	Sheep //Wheat	263.7	45.2	50.9	35.9	5.5			
	Cooking Oil	79.5	-0.8		-0.6	1.9	-	<u> </u>	÷	<u> </u>	MAIMANA	Sheep //Wheat	260.9	-5.1	0.0	0.0	6.7		<u> </u>	
FAIZABAD	Wheat	22.8	II	-11.7	-9.9	3.4	<u></u>	•		<u> </u>	NILI	Sheep //Wheat	139.3	7.2	12.3	23.8	0.0	A	_	
	Wheat flour (HP)	31.5	 	-12.5	-1.6	1.6				<u> </u>	KABUL	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	12.0	17.6	35.4	-4.0	-17.7	A 4		
	Rice High Quality	88.0	1.7	-2.2	4.8	0.0		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	KANDAHAR	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	15.2	22.0	41.1	22.4	-2.0	<u> </u>		
	Rice Low Qaulity	52.0	4.1		7.2	-1.9	<u> </u>				JALALABAD	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	11.5	18.1	16.5	1.9	0.0	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
	Cooking Oil	90.0	-7.8	-1.6	0.0	0.0	•	_	_	<u> </u>	HIRAT	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	8.8	-14.3	-16.8	-18.7	1.3	V 1	*	<u> </u>
MAIMANA	Wheat	23.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	•	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	MAZAR	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	9.6	9.2	39.4	3.8	-16.7	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
	Wheat flour (HP)	25.0			-10.7	0.0	▼	▼	•		FAIZABAD	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	7.9	-12.9	-4.8	1.6	-18.0	V	<u> </u>	y
	Rice High Quality	88.5	6.6		18.0	1.7	<u> </u>				MAIMANA	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	10.0	14.0	47.5	12.0	-16.7	<u></u>		
	Rice Low Qaulity	41.0	-5.0	10.8	10.8 -2.4	2.5				<u></u>	NILI	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	8.7	8.1	20.7	-10.7 37.4	-26.5	<u> </u>		
NILI	Cooking Oil	80.0 28.0	-5.0 -11.0	-13.2	-12.5	0.6	¥	+	÷	÷	KABUL	Sheep /Wheat flour	260.0 291.4	36.3 20.9	40.0	20.8	-4.0 -1.7	1		
	Wheat flour (HP)	36.0	-11.0	-13.2	-12.5	0.0		<u></u>			KANDAHAR JALALABAD	Sheep //wheat flour Sheep //wheat flour	307.7	11.1	44.9 15.4	8.7	0.0	1		
	Rice High Quality	100.0	3.4	6.4	2.0	0.0					HIBAT	Sheep /Wheat flour	260.5	51.5	40.6	22.2	1.3			
	Rice Low Qaulity	68.0	3.7	13.3	4.6	1.5	-	<u> </u>		.	MAZAR	Sheep /Wheat flour	230.8	8.9	11.5	-1.1	-2.0			-
	Cooking Oil	85.0	3.5	13.3	0.0	0.0	>	A	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	FAIZABAD	Sheep /Wheat flour	190.5	50.0	52.4	24.4	7.4	A 4	. 🔺	A
											MAIMANA	Sheep //Wheat flour	240.0	16.7	18.0	12.0	6.7	A 4		A
											NILI	Sheep //Wheat flour	108.3	-0.6	-1.1	8.3	0.0	> 1	>	• •
emark	▲ Price increase abov			1month		ormal Pr				tuo ne:		ease below normal price fluctuati		Decemb	or 2016	and 2V- (`omosio	dto Dec	ambor 3	OOSE

Source: WFP/VAM market data from Afghanistan main cities (Kabul, Kandahar, Mazar, Jalalabad, Faizabad, Hirat, Maimana and Nili), Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) — World Food Programme (WFP), Afghanistan

