

INFORMAL CROSS BORDER TRADE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

DECEMBER 2018

- Maize grain traded in the region decreased by 23 percent in the month of December compared to November. Flows from Mozambique to Malawi were highest (**Table 1**). Compared to December 2017, volumes of maize grain traded are 83 percent lower.
- Volumes of maize meal traded decreased by 31 percent in the review month. Zambia to DRC flows have remained dominant (**Table 2**). December 2018 volumes were 22 percent lower compared to respective 2017 levels.
- Rice volumes traded were 54 percent higher in the month of December compared to November. However, compared to December 2017 levels, rice volumes traded were 40 percent lower. Flows from Tanzania to Zambia were highest (**Table 3**).
- Volumes of dry bean traded were stable between the month of November and December. Largest volumes of dry bean flowed from Tanzania to Zambia (**Table 4**). Compared to December 2017, volumes of dry bean traded were 46 percent lower.

Table 1: Maize grain volumes traded

Source	Destination	Volumes in MT						% change last month
		Jul 18	Aug 18	Sept 18	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	
Mozambique	Malawi	1,530	1,329	1,209	1,022	808	692	-14%
Zambia	DRC	718	1,383	946	1,407	1,226	673	-45%
Zambia	Tanzania	643	677	486	475	191	545	185%
Tanzania	Malawi	57	262	501	485	352	326	-7%
Zambia	Malawi	866	1,312	424	562	315	217	-31%
Tanzania	Zambia	0	0	0	152	379	81	-79%
Malawi	Mozambique	2	1	0	28	20	16	-20%
Malawi	Tanzania	720	148	3	4	4	3	-25%
Malawi	Zambia	7	3	1	0	0	0	-
Total		4,543	5,115	3,570	4,135	3,295	2,553	-23%

FEWS NET Southern Africa has prepared this report based on data collected by a network of cross border monitors based at selected border points in Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Zambia. The cross border monitors record data on a regular basis and transmit it to a central location for collation and analysis. Currently, the informal cross border trade monitor system includes 18 borders. Please address any comments / suggestions to the following email address: yvhevha@fews.net

Table 2: Maize meal volumes traded

Source	Destination	Volumes in MT						% change last month
		Jul 18	Aug 18	Sept 18	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	
Zambia	DRC	867	1,404	1,355	1,367	1,483	938	-37%
Zambia	Malawi	49	56	54	44	77	91	18%
South Africa	Zimbabwe	76	56	56	57	61	74	21%
Zambia	Tanzania	34	17	14	17	20	44	120%
Malawi	Mozambique	29	12	1	36	24	11	-54%
Malawi	Tanzania	0	1	10	1	0	0	-
Total		1,055	1,546	1,490	1,522	1,665	1,158	-30%

Table 3: Rice volumes traded

Source	Destination	Volumes in MT						% change last month
		Jul 18	Aug 18	Sept 18	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	
Tanzania	Zambia	931	581	627	692	490	772	58%
Zambia	DRC	326	310	304	759	506	662	31%
Malawi	Mozambique	24	10	37	31	15	94	527%
Zambia	Zimbabwe	24	17	25	27	29	56	93%
South Africa	Zimbabwe	29	31	30	30	13	38	192%
Malawi	Zambia	18	25	31	29	25	23	-8%
Mozambique	Malawi	65	13	6	2	1	14	1300%
Malawi	Tanzania	180	27	5	1	1	1	0%
Zambia	Tanzania	0	24	0	0	0	0	-
Total		1,597	1,038	1,065	1,571	1,080	1,660	54%

Table 4: Dry beans volumes traded

Source	Destination	Volumes in MT						% change last month
		Jul 18	Aug 18	Sept 18	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	
Tanzania	Zambia	1,039	890	915	1,405	879	1,106	26%
Zambia	DRC	527	622	460	929	755	651	-14%
Tanzania	Malawi	247	147	48	82	134	139	4%
Malawi	Zambia	26	26	14	19	24	29	21%
South Africa	Zimbabwe	17	17	29	18	25	21	-16%
Mozambique	Malawi	341	186	707	202	249	20	-92%
Zambia	Tanzania	2	4	0	45	3	2	-33%
Zambia	Zimbabwe	2	1	2	2	1	1	0%
Malawi	Tanzania	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total		2,201	1,893	2,175	2,702	2,070	1,969	-5%

Figure 2: Photos from the field



Dry beans being transported from Tanzania to Malawi through Songwe border post. Traders use canoes and bicycles.



Dry beans assembled at Songwe border post.



A trader transports maize grain from Tanzania to Malawi through Songwe border post.

Figure 2: Map of informal cross border monitored sites

