

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



Market Monitor Report

WFP VAME | Food Security Analysis

[Afghanistan] September 2019

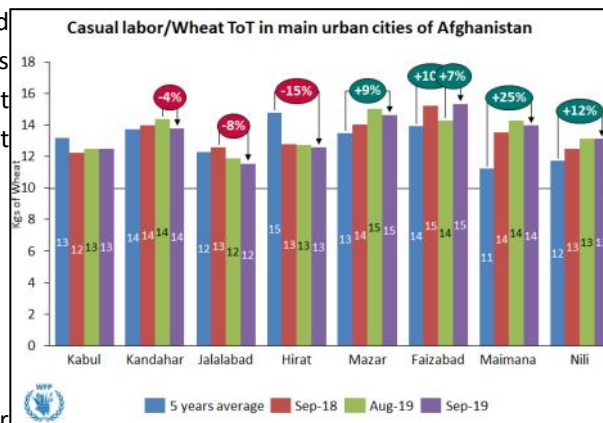
HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ **Wheat:** The current average wheat price in main cities' markets of Afghanistan (AFN 23.6/Kg) is negligibly higher by 2.8% compared to the same time last year (September 2018) and negligibly higher by 1.7% compared to the last 5-year average price of the same months (Septembers 2014 - 2018).
- ◆ **Wheat flour (High Price):** The current retail price (AFN 30.6/kg) is slightly higher by 7.8% compared to the same month last year (September 2018), and slightly higher by 3.7% compared to the last 5-years 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 45.7/kg) is slightly lower by 2.7% compared to the same month last year (September 2018), and slightly higher by 5.6% compared to the last 5-year average price of the same months. The current average price of High Quality Rice (AFN 89.0/kg) is slightly lower by 6.1% compared to the same month last year (September 2018), and slightly higher by 5.6% compared to the last 5-years average price of the same months.
- ◆ **Pulses:** The current retail price (AFN 76.1/kg) is slightly lower by 2.9% compared to the same month last year (September 2018), and slightly higher by 4.3% compared to the last 5-years average price of the same months.

Terms of Trade (ToT)

Casual Labor and Wheat (ToT): *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.*

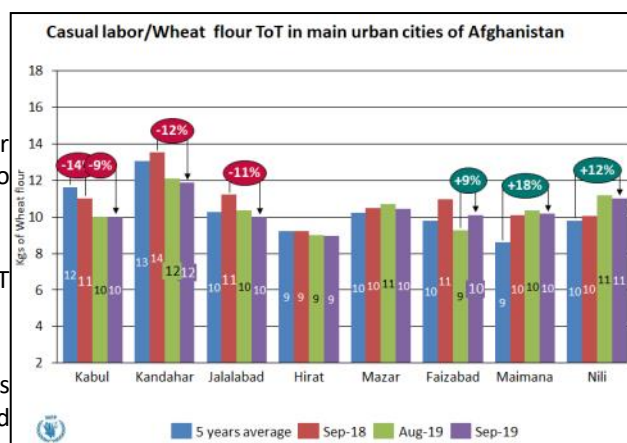
Labor wage/Wheat average ToT for the reporting month was 13.4 Kgs of Wheat. On average, this ToT negligibly deteriorated by 0.7% from August to September 2019, mainly due to increased wheat price (by 0.7%). The variation in all main cities markets was within normal range (-4.2% to 0.0%) except an improvement occurred only in Faizabad due to decrease of wheat price. In the last three proceeding years, this deterioration was experienced in:



- ◇ August to September 2018 (by 3.1%)
- ◇ August to September 2017 (by 2.2%)
- ◇ August to September 2016 (by 0.4%)
- In comparison to the same month one year ago (September 2018), this ToT negligibly improved by 0.5%, mainly due to increased labor wage (by 3.3%).
- On the two-year comparison (September 2017), this ToT slightly deteriorated by 4.3%.
- Compared to the 5-years average of the same months (Septembers 2014-2018), this ToT negligibly improved by 3.1%.

Casual Labor and High Price Wheat flour (ToT): *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.*

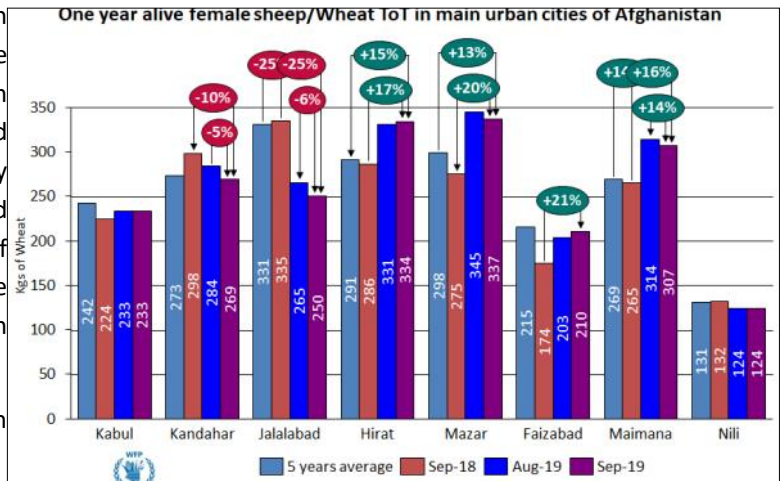
Labor wage/Wheat flour (HP) average ToT for the reporting month was 10.3 Kgs of Wheat flour which negligibly deteriorated by 0.5% from August to September 2019, mainly due to increase of high wheat flour price by 0.1%. The variation in all main cities markets was within normal range (-3.3 % to 0.0%) but there is a highest improvement only occurred in Faizabad by 9.0% due to decrease of wheat flour price. In the last three proceeding years, this deterioration was experienced in:



- ◇ August to September 2018 (by 3.3%)
- ◇ August to September 2017 (by 1.0%)
- ◇ August to September 2016 (by 2.8%)
- Compared to the same month one year ago (September 2018), this ToT slightly deteriorated by 4.6%, mainly due to increase of wheat flour by 7.8%.
- On the two-year comparison (September 2017), this ToT significantly deteriorated by 14.1%.
- Compared to the 5-years average of the same months (Septembers 2014 - 2018), this ToT negligibly deteriorated by 0.1%.

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 258.0Kgs of wheat against one-year alive female sheep, which negligibly deteriorated by 1.7% from August to September 2019, mainly due to decreased sheep price by (0.6%) and increased wheat price by 0.7%. The highest deterioration occurred in Jalalabad by 5.8% and Kandahar by 5.3% due to decrease of sheep price and increase of Wheat price. The variation in other main cities markets was within normal range (-2.4% to 1.0%).



In the last three proceeding years, this deterioration was only experienced in:

- ◇ August to September 2018 (by 4.8%)

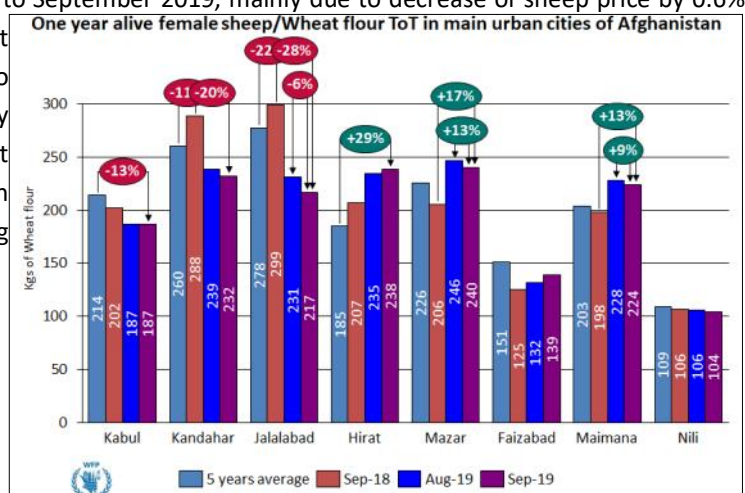
While improved;

- ◇ August to September 2017 (by 0.1%)
- ◇ August to September 2016 (by 4.1%)

- Compared to the same month one year ago (September 2018), this ToT slightly improved by 3.7%, which is mainly due to increase of sheep price by 5.4%.
- On the two-years comparison (September 2017) this ToT slightly deteriorated by 8.1%.
- Compared to 5-years average of the same months (Septembers 2014 - 2018), this ToT negligibly improved by 0.7%.

Sheep and High Price Wheat flour (ToT): *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 197.5 Kgs of wheat flour against one-year alive female sheep, which slightly deteriorated by 1.4% from August to September 2019, mainly due to decrease of sheep price by 0.6% and increased wheat flour price by 0.1%. The largest deterioration only occurred in Jalalabad by 6.2% due to decrease of sheep price but there is a improvement only occurred in Faizabad by 5.2% due to decrease of Wheat flour price. The variation in all other markets was within normal range (2.8% to 1.6%). In the last three proceeding years, this deterioration was only experienced in:



- ◇ August to September 2018 (by 4.7%)

While improved;

- ◇ August to September 2017 (by 2.4%)
- ◇ August to September 2016 (by 1.4%)

- Compared to the same month one year ago (September 2018), this ToT slightly deteriorated by 3.1%, mainly due to increase of wheat flour by (7.8%).
- On the two-years comparison (September 2017), this ToT significantly deteriorated by 17.9%.
- Compared to 5-years average of the same months (Septembers 2014 - 2018), this ToT negligibly deteriorated by 2.9%.

Retail Price of Wheat Grain in Main Urban Cities:

The monthly average price of wheat in main cities' markets of Afghanistan was AFN **23.6**/Kg in September 2019. The average price negligibly increased by 0.7% compared to the previous month (August 2019). The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (0.0% to 4.4 %) except a largest decrease only occurred in Faizabad by (6.8%) due to temporary increase of supply from the source of points (Local). In the last three proceeding years, this increase was experienced in;

- ◇ August to September 2018 (by 3.1%)
- ◇ August to September (by 0.3%)

While decreased in:

- ◇ August to September 2017 (by 0.5%)
- Compared to the same month one year ago (September 2018), the average wheat price slightly increased by 2.8%. The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (-2.0% to 8.9%).
- On the two-years comparison (September 2017), the average price negligibly increased by 1.7%.
- Compared to the last 5-years average price of the same months (Septembers 2014 - 2018), the average price negligibly increased by 1.7%.

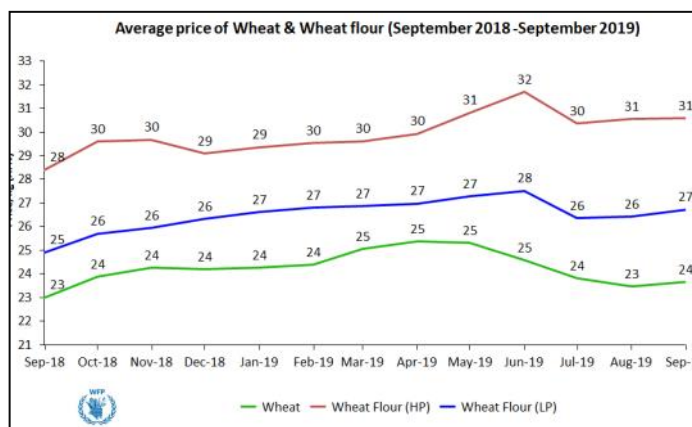
Retail Price of Wheat flour in Main Urban Cities:

Wheat flour (High Price): The monthly average price of Wheat flour (High Price) in main cities' markets was AFN **30.6**/Kg in the reporting month (September 2019). The average price negligibly increased by 0.1% compared to the previous month (August 2019). The variation in all main cities was within a normal limit (0.0% to 3.4%) except a largest decrease only occurred in Faizabad by 8.3% due to increase of supply from source of point (Kazakhstan). In the last three proceeding years, this increase was experienced in;

- ◇ August to September 2018 and 2016 (by 3.0%)

While decreased in:

- ◇ August to September 2017 (by 1.3%)



- Compared to the same month last year (September 2018), the current average price slightly increased by 7.8%. The largest increase occurred in Kandahar by (13.7%) followed by Jalalabad (12.1%), Maimana (10.3%) and Kabul (10.1%) due to currency exchange rate (US\$/ Vs AFN) prices and decrease of supply from source of points (Pakistan and Kazakhstan). The variation in all other main cities was within a normal range (- 0.7% to 8.6%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (September 2017), the average price of wheat flour significantly increased by 12.2%.
- Compared to 5-years average price of the same months (Septembers 2014 - 2018), the average price slightly increased by 3.7%.

Wheat flour (Low Price):

The monthly average price of wheat flour (Low Price) in main urban cities’ markets was AFN **26.7**/Kg in the reporting month (September 2019). The average price negligibly increased by 1.1% compared to the previous month (August 2019). The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (0.0% to 4.2%) but there is a largest decrease only occurred in Faizabad by 5.5% due to increased supply from the source points (Kazakhstan). In the last three proceeding years, this increase was experienced in;

- ◇ August to September 2018 (by 3.4%)
- ◇ August to September 2016 (by 2.9%)

While decreased in:

- ◇ August to September 2017 (by 1.3%)
- Compared to the same month one year ago (September 2018), the current average price slightly increased by 7.4%. The largest increase occurred in Kandahar (15.0%), Maimana by (14.3%) and Kabul (11.3%) due to decrease of supply. The variation in all other main cities was within a normal range (-6.9% to 9.2%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (September 2017), the average price significantly increased by 10.8%.
- Compared to 5-years average price of the same months (Septembers 2014 - 2018), the average price slightly increased by 3.0%.

Retail Price of Rice in Main Urban Cities:

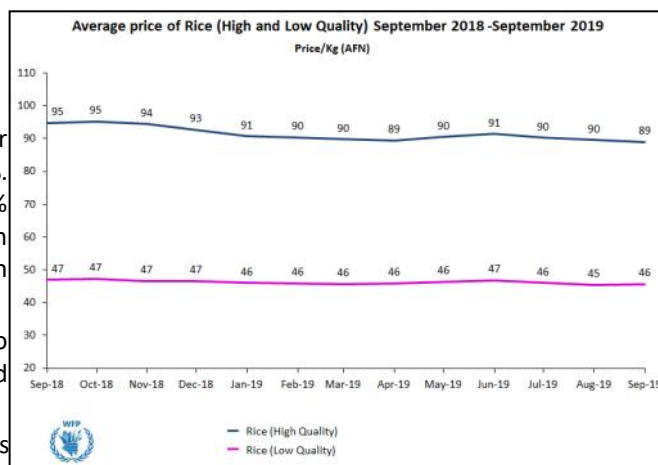
Rice (High Quality):

The monthly average price of rice (High Quality) in main cities’ markets was AFN **89.0**/Kg in the reporting month (September 2019) which negligibly decreased by 0.7% compared to the previous month (August 2019). The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (-3.0% to 0.0%). In the last three proceeding years, this decrease was only experienced in,

- ◇ August to September 2017 (by 0.5%)

While increased in:

- ◇ August to September 2018 (by 0.8%), and remained the same in August to September 2016
- Compared to the same month one year ago (September 2018), the average price slightly decreased by 6.1%. The largest decrease occurred in Kandahar by 16.9% and Jalalabad (16.4%) due to increase of supply from sources of point (Pakistan). The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (-9.4% to 4.3%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (September 2017), the average price slightly increased by 5.9%.
- Compared to 5-years average price of some months (Septembers 2014 - 2018), the average price slightly increased by 5.6%.



Rice (Low Quality):

The monthly average price of Rice (Low Quality) in main cities’ markets was AFN **45.7**/Kg in the reporting month (September 2019), which negligibly increased by 0.8% compared to the previous month (August 2019). The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (0.0% to 4.1%). In the last three proceeding years, this increase was experienced in;

- ◇ August to September 2018 (by 0.3%)
- ◇ August to September 2016 (by 0.8%)

While decreased in:

- ◇ August to September 2017 (by 0.2%)

- Compared to the same month one year ago (September 2018), the average price slightly decreased by 2.7%. The highest decrease only occurred in Kandahar by 10.8% due to increase of supply from source of point (Pakistan). The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (-9.6% to 7.1%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (September 2017), the average price negligibly increased by 1.1%.
- Compared to 5-years average price of same months (Septembers 2014- 2018), the average price slightly increased by 5.6%.

Retail Price of Cooking Oil in Main Urban Cities:

The monthly average price of cooking oil in main cities' markets was AFN **80.9/Kg** in the reporting month (September 2019), the average price negligibly increased by 0.3% compared to previous month (August 2019). The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (0.0% to 1.0%). In the last three proceeding years, this increase was experienced in;

- ◇ August to September 2018 and 2016 (by 0.8%)

While decreased in;

- ◇ August to September 2018 (by 0.5%)

- Compared to the same month one year ago (September 2018), the average price negligibly increased by 0.4%. The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (-8.4% to 8.0%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (September 2017), the average price negligibly decreased by 1.7%
- Compared to 5-years average of the same months (Septembers 2014 - 2018), 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 September 2019 in main cities' markets was AFN **76.1/Kg** which has negligibly decreased by 0.4% compared to the previous month (August 2019).

- Compared to the same time last year (September 2018), the price of pulses slightly decreased by 2.9%, the highest decrease occurred in Faizabad (16.2%) and Kandahar (13.7%), mainly due to increased supply and an increase has been occurred in Jalalabad by 14.3% and Maimana (10.7%), due to decrease of supply from border country. The variation in all other main cities was within a normal range (-6.8% to 0.9%).
- Compared to the same time two years ago (September 2017), the price of pulses significantly decreased by 13.1%.
- Compared to 5-years average of the same months (Septembers 2014 - 2018), the prices of pulses increased slightly by 4.3%.

Salt: The monthly average price of salt in September 2019 in main cities' markets was AFN **15.5/Kg**, remained the same compared to the previous month (August 2019). The current average price of salt slightly increased by 7.5% compared to the same month last year (September 2018), and significantly increased by 11.2% compared to the same month two years ago (September 2017).

Sugar: The monthly average price of sugar in September 2019 in main cities' markets was AFN **45.1/Kg**, negligibly decreased by 0.5% compared to the previous month (August 2019). The current average price of sugar slightly increased by 9.1% compared to the same month last year (September 2018) due to decrease of supply, and significantly decreased by 11.0% compared to the same month two years ago (September 2017).

Number of days averagely worked by a labourer: The monthly average number of days worked by a laborer during September 2019 was reported at 12.1 days. The highest number of working days were in Nili (19days), Kabul (16days), Faizabad (14.0 days), Hirat and Kandahar (12 days), followed by Maimana, Mazar and Jalalabad (8 days) which significantly increased by (6.6%) compared to the previous month (August 2019).

- Compared to the same month last year (September 2018), the average number of working days significantly increased by 15.5% (1.6 days).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (September 2017), the average number of working days for main cities slightly decreased by 9.3% (1.3 days).

Market Watch:

Markets	Major Comm	Current Price per Kg	Price change (%)				Average				Markets	Major Comm	Current Price in AFN	Price change				Average			
			5 Y Ave	2 Y	1 Y	1M	5 Y Ave	2 Y	1 Y	1M				5 Y Ave	2 Y	1 Y	1M	5 Y Ave	2 Y	1 Y	1M
KABUL	Wheat	24.0	1.3	-3.0	-2.0	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	Livestock-One year live Sheep (Female)													
	Wheat flour (HP)	30.0	12.0	23.7	10.1	0.0	▲▲▲▲▶	KABUL	Sheep	5,600	-1.8	-13.8	1.8	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice High Quality	99.0	12.4	19.6	-1.0	0.0	▲▲▲▶▶	KANDAHAR	Sheep	6,825	-2.0	-10.6	-8.5	-1.1	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice Low Quality	53.0	-5.4	-11.7	-8.6	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	JALALABAD	Sheep	6,500	-12.8	-18.8	-18.8	-3.0	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Cooking Oil	67.0	-13.8	-16.3	-6.3	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	HIRAT	Sheep	6,650	20.9	-2.5	18.8	2.3	▶▶▶▶▶						
KANDAHAR	Wheat	25.4	-0.6	0.0	1.5	4.4	▶▶▶▶▶	MAZAR	Sheep	6,900	11.2	6.2	25.5	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Wheat flour (HP)	29.4	9.9	9.1	13.7	1.7	▶▶▶▶▶	FAIZABAD	Sheep	4,800	-3.1	-15.8	20.0	-3.5	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice High Quality	73.4	-2.9	-8.4	-16.9	-0.7	▶▶▶▶▶	MAIMANA	Sheep	6,600	12.6	10.0	24.5	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice Low Quality	30.5	-2.6	-4.7	-10.8	1.5	▶▶▶▶▶	NILI	Sheep	3,600	-6.7	-7.7	-2.7	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Cooking Oil	103.3	28.9	18.0	7.4	0.8	▲▲▲▶▶	Terms of Trade Kgs of Wheat/Wheat flour													
JALALABAD	Wheat	26.0	15.7	13.0	8.9	3.0	▲▲▲▶▶	KABUL	Casual Labor/Wheat	12.5	-5.1	3.1	2.1	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Wheat flour (HP)	30.0	11.1	20.0	12.1	3.4	▲▲▲▶▶	KANDAHAR	Casual Labor/Wheat	13.8	0.5	-12.5	-1.5	-4.2	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice High Quality	72.8	-8.6	-9.1	-16.4	-3.0	▶▶▶▶▶	JALALABAD	Casual Labor/Wheat	11.5	-5.9	-11.5	-8.2	-2.9	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice Low Quality	30.8	-5.5	-6.8	-9.6	3.4	▶▶▶▶▶	HIRAT	Casual Labor/Wheat	12.6	-14.9	-5.8	-1.8	-1.3	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Cooking Oil	70.5	-8.0	-10.2	-8.4	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	MAZAR	Casual Labor/Wheat	14.6	8.6	-2.4	4.5	-2.4	▶▶▶▶▶						
HIRAT	Wheat	19.9	4.5	6.1	1.8	1.3	▶▶▶▶▶	FAIZABAD	Casual Labor/Wheat	15.3	10.2	-2.2	0.6	7.3	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Wheat flour (HP)	27.9	-9.1	0.2	3.0	0.7	▶▶▶▶▶	MAIMANA	Casual Labor/Wheat	14.0	24.5	7.0	3.4	-2.3	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice High Quality	78.8	8.1	1.9	-9.4	-0.4	▶▶▶▶▶	NILI	Casual Labor/Wheat	13.1	11.8	-8.3	4.8	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice Low Quality	33.2	9.1	3.6	-8.8	4.1	▶▶▶▶▶	KABUL	Sheep /Wheat	233.3	-3.5	-11.2	3.9	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Cooking Oil	75.3	2.3	-1.4	0.3	0.2	▶▶▶▶▶	KANDAHAR	Sheep /Wheat	268.7	-1.5	-10.6	-9.9	-5.3	▶▶▶▶▶						
MAZAR	Wheat	20.5	-1.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	▶▶▶▶▶	JALALABAD	Sheep /Wheat	250.0	-24.5	-28.1	-25.4	-5.8	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Wheat flour (HP)	28.8	4.0	19.8	7.5	2.7	▶▶▶▶▶	HIRAT	Sheep /Wheat	334.2	14.9	-8.1	16.7	1.0	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice High Quality	94.0	13.6	15.0	1.1	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	MAZAR	Sheep /Wheat	336.6	12.8	3.6	22.4	-2.4	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice Low Quality	44.0	11.4	7.3	2.3	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	FAIZABAD	Sheep /Wheat	210.3	-2.2	-14.7	20.7	3.6	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Cooking Oil	84.0	8.1	3.7	8.0	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	MAIMANA	Sheep /Wheat	307.0	14.1	17.7	15.8	-2.3	▶▶▶▶▶						
FAIZABAD	Wheat	22.8	-1.1	-1.3	-0.6	-6.8	▶▶▶▶▶	NILI	Sheep /Wheat	124.1	-5.1	-10.9	-6.1	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Wheat flour (HP)	34.6	5.6	11.7	8.6	-8.3	▶▶▶▶▶	KABUL	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	10.0	-14.0	-19.2	-9.2	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice High Quality	97.8	9.5	14.3	-2.7	-1.8	▶▶▶▶▶	KANDAHAR	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	11.9	-9.0	-19.8	-12.1	-1.7	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice Low Quality	58.0	15.4	2.7	2.0	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	JALALABAD	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	10.0	-2.7	-16.7	-10.8	-3.3	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Cooking Oil	90.0	-2.2	-0.3	0.0	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	HIRAT	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	9.0	-2.8	-0.2	-2.9	-0.7	▶▶▶▶▶						
MAIMANA	Wheat	21.5	-1.4	-6.5	7.5	2.4	▶▶▶▶▶	MAZAR	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	10.4	2.1	-16.5	-0.3	-2.6	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Wheat flour (HP)	29.5	1.5	18.0	10.3	1.7	▶▶▶▶▶	FAIZABAD	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	10.1	3.1	-13.6	-7.9	9.0	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice High Quality	96.0	12.2	13.6	4.3	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	MAIMANA	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	10.2	18.2	-15.3	0.8	-1.7	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice Low Quality	45.0	13.1	12.5	7.1	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	NILI	Casual Labor/Wheat flour	11.0	12.4	-6.4	9.4	-1.4	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Cooking Oil	82.0	1.3	2.8	5.5	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	KABUL	Sheep /Wheat flour	186.7	-12.9	-30.4	-7.5	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶						
NILI	Wheat	29.0	-2.0	3.6	3.6	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	KANDAHAR	Sheep /Wheat flour	231.9	-10.9	-18.1	-19.5	-2.8	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Wheat flour (HP)	34.5	-2.3	1.5	-0.7	1.5	▶▶▶▶▶	JALALABAD	Sheep /Wheat flour	216.7	-21.9	-32.3	-27.6	-6.2	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice High Quality	100.0	0.0	0.0	-9.1	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	HIRAT	Sheep /Wheat flour	238.4	28.9	-2.7	15.3	1.6	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Rice Low Quality	71.0	7.3	6.0	0.0	0.0	▶▶▶▶▶	MAZAR	Sheep /Wheat flour	240.0	6.3	-11.4	16.7	-2.6	▶▶▶▶▶						
	Cooking Oil	75.0	-7.5	-11.8	-5.1	1.0	▶▶▶▶▶	FAIZABAD	Sheep /Wheat flour	138.6	-8.4	-24.6	10.5	5.2	▶▶▶▶▶						
							MAIMANA	Sheep /Wheat flour	223.7	10.1	-6.8	12.9	-1.7	▶▶▶▶▶							
							NILI	Sheep /Wheat flour	104.3	-4.6	-9.0	-2.0	-1.4	▶▶▶▶▶							

Price fluctuation is considered normal if the price change is within 5% for 1 month, or within 10% for 3 months, one year, two year and 5 years. 1M= Compared to month ago 1Y= Compared to September 2018 and 2Y= Compared to September 2017