



World Food Programme



Weekly Market Price Bulletin

Azraq and Zaatari Refugee Camps

Country Context

Inflation

Annual **-0.56%**

Monthly **+0.10%**

June 2020 – DoS (JOR) Based on consumer Price Index.

Population

10.5 Million in 2019

659,673 Syrian refugees:
77,497 in Zaatari camp
37,012 in Azraq camp

By Department of Statistics -JOR.
UNHCR Data – AUG 2020.

Unemployment Rate

23% in Q2 2020, compared to 19.2% in Q1 2019.

By Department of Statistics -JOR.

GDP Growth Rate

Jordan's economy grew by 2% year-on-year in 2019. But it is projected to contract significantly to -3.5% in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic (forecast¹).

By World Bank – JOR.

Food Inflation

The cost of food in Jordan increased by 0.1% in Aug 2020 as compared to the same month in 2019.

By Department of Statistics -JOR.

Foreign Exchange Reserves

Foreign Exchange Reserves in Jordan decreased for the consecutive month by 0.7% to 13,874.4 MJOD in Aug from 13,972.4 MJOD in July 2020.

By Central Bank -JOR.

National Market Prices

The long-term trends show an increase in the prices of protein-rich foods (eggs, meat and fish) along with fruits in August 2020 as compared to one year ago. The prices of cereals, legumes, dairy products and cooking oil witnessed slight to moderate variations that remain within acceptable limits. Heat waves and production losses put an end to the downward trend in prices for vegetables observed since May 2020 following export restrictions by the government and import bans by neighboring countries. Overall, prices of most food groups remain unchanged from last month except for vegetables which witnessed considerable fluctuations (from -16 to +12 percent).

+8% Spinach

+12% Potatoes

-16% Garlic

+6% Cucumber

-5% Tomato

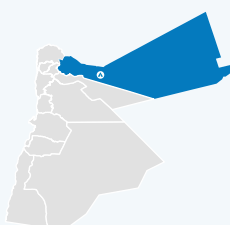
Commodity/Item	Unit	Avg Weekly Prices			Percentage Change*		
		JUN	JUL	AUG	1M	3M	6M
Exchange Rate	USD/JOD	0.71	0.71	0.71	0%	0%	0%
Petroleum Products:							
Diesel	JOD/L	0.41	0.47	0.47	0%	18%	-23%
Cooking gas	JOD/12.5 Kg Cylinder	7	7	7	0%	0%	0%
Petrol gasoline (90)	JOD/L	0.6	0.66	0.66	0%	19%	-15%

* Percentage Change in prices reported for Aug 2020, compared to previous months
Data source: Ministry of Interior, Trade and Supply - Jordan.

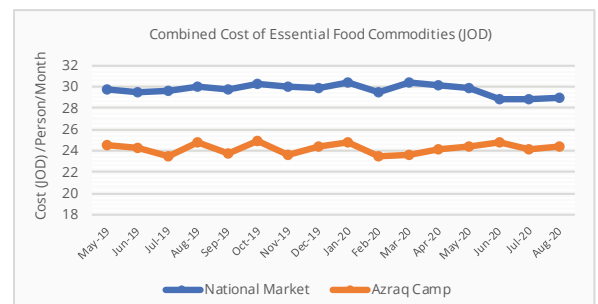
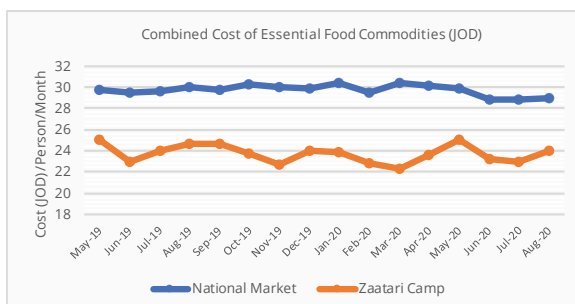
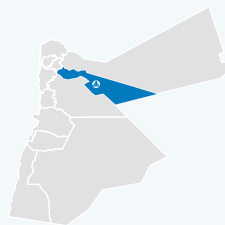
Highlights

- ▶ The combined cost of essential food commodities in both camps showed an increase of 1.0% in Azraq camp and 4.4% in Zaatari camp (see Figures 1 and 2), as compared to the preceding month, which was mainly driven by higher vegetable prices. This basket of essential foods is 1.8% more expensive in Azraq camp than in Zaatari camp, but still well below the national average.
- ▶ During the reporting period, prices for the cheapest available staple commodities witnessed moderate to significant fluctuations ranging from -16% to +52% compared with July 2020. Despite a temporary price stabilization starting 3 months ago, bulgur and lentils are still the staples that show the most significant long-term price increases.
- ▶ Market prices for protein-rich foods (eggs, tuna, chicken) have fluctuated moderately in both camps. While the prices of tuna and eggs recorded slight increases, the price of whole chicken displayed a decrease of 14% in both camps.
- ▶ In August 2020, prices of vegetables in both Azraq and Zaatari camps displayed significant spikes ranging from +3% to +52% compared with last month.

Zaatari Camp



Azraq Camp



SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

1 By World Bank assuming significant slowdown in the global and reduced domestic demand during 2020, <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/914661554825485360/mpo-jor.pdf>, accessed on 5 May 2020.
2 Essential food commodities include bread, bulgur, rice, potatoes, salt, chicken, eggs, tuna, cheese, veg, oil, sugar, onions, tomatoes and cucumber.
3 Staple commodities include bulgur, rice, lentils, sugar, veg, oil and wheat flour.

Zaatari Camp

- ▶ As in Azraq camp, the prices for vegetables in Zaatari camp displayed unanimous increases (from +33% for onions to 52% for tomatoes) during August 2020 as compared to last month. However, looking at long-term trends, all vegetables are still cheaper as compared to 12 months ago. The price of apples remained unchanged.
- ▶ Prices for the cheapest available staple commodities displayed significant fluctuations in August 2020 from (-11% for bulgur to +56% for wheat flour). A positive development is that prices of lentils and bulgur stabilized over the past 3 months after price hikes earlier this year. However, both commodities are still considerably more expensive (14% and 24%) than 6 months ago.
- ▶ Prices for protein-rich foods (eggs, chicken, tuna) in Zaatari camp have fluctuated over the past 6 months, though within acceptable margins. While the price of eggs and tuna posted an increase by 5% and 6% respectively, the price of chicken witnessed a considerable decrease by 14%.
- ▶ Prices of salt and milk powder fell by 9% and 6% respectively, putting an end to the upward trend that started 3 months ago.

Azraq Camp

- ▶ During August 2020, the prices of vegetables in Azraq camp posted slight to significant increases (from +3% for tomatoes to +39% for onions) compared with July 2020, putting an end to the downward trend from the beginning of May. Nevertheless, vegetable prices remain much cheaper compared with one year ago. Although the price of apples has been decreasing over the past 3 months, it is still 21% more expensive than 6 months ago.
- ▶ Prices of the cheapest available brands of staple commodities witnessed moderate decreases (from -5% for wheat flour to -16% for bulgur) during the reporting period except for rice for which the price increased by 8%. It is noteworthy that the prices of lentils and bulgur stabilized after spikes since the beginning of this year.
- ▶ Prices of protein-rich foods (eggs, chicken, tuna) continued to display considerable fluctuations during the reporting week. While the prices for chicken and eggs fell, by 14% and 2% respectively, the price of tuna increased by 7% from a month ago.
- ▶ A positive development is that the prices of salt and milk powder stabilized after a continuous upward trend during the past 6 months.

	Zaatari Camp							Azraq Camp							
	Size	Unit	Percentage Change					Trend	Price	Percentage Change					Trend
			Price	1 M	3 M	6 M	1 Y		AUG 2020	1 M	3 M	6 M	1 Y		
Cereals/ Grains/ Roots															
Bread	1	Kg	0.32	0%	0%	0%	0%	—	0.32	0%	0%	0%	0%	—	
Bulgur	1	Kg	0.66	-11%	-11%	14%	17%	↗	0.81	-16%	-7%	38%	29%	↗	
Rice	1	Kg	1.03	24%	13%	4%	4%	↘	1.08	8%	7%	0%	-4%	↘	
Wheat Flour	1.5	Kg	0.73	56%	31%	-14%	-11%	↘	0.82	-5%	16%	-3%	-3%	↘	
Condiments/ Spices															
Salt	0.75	Kg	0.18	-9%	5%	15%	84%	↗	0.14	-23%	21%	15%	15%	↗	
Legumes/ Nuts															
Lentils	1	Kg	1.06	-15%	-17%	24%	22%	↗	1.18	0%	-3%	65%	54%	↗	
Fruits															
Apples	1	Kg	1.33	0%	-6%	33%	20%	↗	1.23	-7%	-11%	21%	19%	↗	
Meat/ Fish/ Eggs															
Eggs	2	Kg	2.15	5%	-14%	8%	24%	↗	2.31	-2%	-7%	5%	-26%	↘	
Whole Chicken	1	Kg	1.58	-14%	-2%	-1%	-28%	↘	1.56	-14%	-3%	5%	-19%	↘	
Tuna	0.185	Kg	0.84	6%	1%	-1%	-1%	↘	0.93	7%	14%	18%	12%	↗	
Milk/ Dairy products															
Spread Cheese	8	Pcs	0.43	7%	-5%	1%	-5%	↘	0.33	4%	3%	-33%	-3%	↗	
Milk Powder	0.8	Kg	2.89	-6%	21%	27%		↗	2.69	-4%	15%	19%		↗	
Oil/ Fat/ Butter															
Vegetable Oil	1.8	L	1.72	2%	4%	6%	3%	↗	1.75	-6%	-1%	3%	-21%	↘	
Sugar/ Sweet															
Sugar	1	Kg	0.48	-9%	-16%	-32%	-29%	↘	0.52	-8%	0%	-19%	-19%	↘	
Vegetables/ Leaves/ Tubers															
Cucumber	1	Kg	0.44	34%	-2%	-19%	-30%	↘	0.38	18%	-13%	-35%	-38%	↘	
Onions	1	Kg	0.33	33%	-27%	-35%	-25%	↘	0.34	39%	-18%	-38%	-23%	↘	
Potatoes	1	Kg	0.56	38%	18%	29%	-17%	↘	0.52	28%	22%	3%	-16%	↘	
Tomatoes	1	Kg	0.39	52%	-18%	17%	-30%	↘	0.31	3%	-34%	-21%	-37%	↘	

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- Main source of data for camps is WFP Market price monitoring through field visits complemented by online data in WFP's Triangulation Database.
 - Methodology: camps reported prices reflect the average collected prices of the cheapest available food commodity in the reported period while the national prices represent the national average prices as received from the Department of Statistics in Jordan.

