Market & Seasonal Monitoring Update

CAMBODIA

United Nations World Food Programme

Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM)

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Environmental factors influencing prices

At the start of 2024, global food inflation remained high. This can primarily be attributed to persistent geopolitical conflicts, the influence of the El Niño phenomenon on global trade and agriculture, and the imposition of food export restrictions by major producer countries. These factors collectively contribute to the challenges faced by the global food markets, impacting prices and availability of essential commodities.

In January 2024, the FAO global food price index is 10.4% lower year-on-year (YoY), after recording a decrease of 1.0% month-on-month (MoM). The improvement was primarily driven by declines in cereal and meat prices, which more than offset an increase in sugar prices, while vegetable oils and dairy products saw only marginal adjustments. The FAO all rice price index continued to show a modest MoM increase of 1.2% and stood 13.0% higher YoY.

Global rice prices are projected to further increase in 2024, by 6%, following a 28% price spike in 2023. These rising prices, driven by increased demand and reduced supply, are raising concerns about global food insecurity, especially given that rice is a main staple food for over 3 billion people. In addition, El Niño-induced lower inland water levels are <u>disrupting key trade routes</u> around the globe, posing potential challenges to global trade. These disruptions are already causing delivery delays, increasing shipping costs, and impacting food import bills and retail prices.

To understand how these shocks impact food availability and access to markets in Cambodia, the World Food Programme (WFP) tracks primary food prices and market dynamics across 58 markets. In January 2024, interviews are conducted with approximately 1,000 traders and market chiefs during the third week to assess supply and demand. Additionally, monitoring extends to gasoline, diesel, and wages for unskilled labor in the agriculture and construction sectors.

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In January 2024, both the Phnom Penh Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Food Price Index (FPI) experienced decreases compared to the previous month and year. But, they remained higher than in 2022. Cambodian households allocate a significant portion of their income to food, on average 52%. In the lowest expenditure quintile, this figure rises to 58% (CSES, 2021).

5 Inflation	270 260 250 240 230 220	-2.9% MoM, -0.4% YoY, +3.3% 2022
	210 200 190 180 170	-2.5% MoM, -0.5% YoY, +2.5% 2022
	160	Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

In January 2024, fuel prices in Cambodia continued to show a moderate decrease. The improvement in fuel prices is likely due to an <u>increase in supply from non-OPEC+ countries that</u> <u>occurred simultaneously with a deceleration of global demand</u>. However, diesel prices remained moderately higher than in 2022, when prices had already spiked.



Key Findings

In January 2024, the cost of the WFP basic food basket (BFB) dropped by 3.2% month-on-month (MoM), reaching USD 26.5 per person monthly. This decline was driven by decreasing prices of almost all food commodities in the basket, except for rice and sweet potatoes. The price of rise continued on its upward trend, increasing by 1.2% MoM and 32.3% YoY.

In January 2024, the purchasing power of vulnerable groups showed a moderate improvement, thanks to the decrease in the cost of the food basket and improving informal labour wages. Nonetheless, there was a reduction in customer visits to markets, presumably because of emerging alternatives such as small food stores. Markets generally functioned well across Cambodia.

The area under cultivation of dry-season paddy increased by 23% in January 2024, compared to the same period in the previous year. This unprecedented expansion is most pronounced in Pursat and Battambang provinces. It can be attributed to the surge in rice prices, providing incentives to farmers, and reduced agricultural input prices, including for fuel and fertilizer.

However, more extensive rice cropping also enhances the risk of water shortages, which has already become a reality in some communes. In addition, many rice-growing areas, notably in the south-west of the country, experienced low rainfall and high temperatures associated with the current El Niño phenomenon.

Market functionality

In January 2024, there was a moderate increase in the market functionality index^{*} (MFI) compared to the previous month. This improvement was primarily attributed to stability in prices of essential goods that outweighed a modest drop of physical availability of goods in sufficient quantities. Market chiefs and traders were interviewed regarding the food supply situation. In January 2024, 4 of them reported an increase in supply prices for key food commodities, particularly for rice.



* The market functionality index (MFI) measures the functionality of monitored markets along the following key dimensions: assortment of essential goods, physical availability of goods in sufficient quantities, affordable and stable-predictable prices, and the underlying resilience of supply chains. Each dimensions ins in the reduced MFI is indexed on a scale of 0 to 10, with a higher value indicating better market functionality at the time of monitoring. Overall MFI is an aggregation of the four dimensions. <u>Detail methodology of MFI</u>. From mid-September 2022 onwards, information on non-food items (NFI) is also included in the analysis. Started from April 2023, the calculation of MFI and its dimensions was adjusted to ensure a more precise depiction.

Market access: Customer trends

In January 2024, the downward trend in market visits persisted compared to the previous month. This decline can likely be attributed to the instability of household income, restricting household expenditure. Additionally, the rise of small stores in villages reduced the need for people to travel to the main market to purchase food.



Change in Customers* Visiting Markets

* Across the **58 monitored markets** in the country, market chiefs and traders were interviewed about market accessibility and customer visits in the first and third weeks of the month, compared to the previous two weeks. The value of change in customers is calculated based on a diffusion index or advance/decline index to track the change of customers visiting the market in a time series.

National: Cost of a basic food basket

Even though the cost of the basic food basket (BFB) decreased by 3.2% month-on-month (MoM) since December 2023, it remains 2.0% higher compared to the same month in the preceding year (YoY). In January 2024, the average cost of the BFB reached 108,600 riels per person per month, which is equivalent to USD 26.5. The cost of BFB in remained higher in urban markets² (USD 26.7, -3.9% MoM, +0.7% YoY) as compared to rural markets (USD 26.2, -1.4% MoM, +4.1% YoY).



¹ The cost of the WFP basic food basket (BFB) is calculated to assist with interpreting the impact of monthly changes in food commodity prices on the cost of a basic diet consumed in Cambodia.

² Urban markets refer to the markets situated in the provincial towns, all other markets in the monitoring are considered as rural markets

A basic food basket (BFB) Daily per capita ration



The BFB consists of key commodities including mixed rice, snakehead fish, pork, duck egg, vegetable oil, sweet potato and morning glory which contribute to the minimum energy requirement of 1,937 kcal/person/day. The BFB was adopted from WFP's Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) study in Cambodia. See Annex 3 for more details on the methodology.

National: Price trends of mixed rice, duck eggs, and morning glory

In January 2024, retail prices for mixed rice showed a modest month-on-month (MoM) increase of 1.2% and remained notably higher year-on-year (YoY), by 32.3%. Duck eggs and morning glory experienced significant price decreases, both MoM and YoY, with reductions of 7.3% MoM and 6.4% YoY for duck eggs, and 9.3% MoM and 6.6% YoY for morning glory.

See Annex 1 and 2 for additional food commodity prices.



Note:

- Morning glory is commonly eaten in Cambodia and its price trend does not always indicate price fluctuations of other vegetables in the Annexes.
- Food prices was collected remotely by call centre.

National: Price trends of snakehead fish, pork with fat, and vegetable oil

In January 2024, retail prices for vegetable oil, pork with fat, and snakehead fish continued to show a decreasing trend, both month-on-month (MoM) and yearon-year (YoY). Prices for vegetable oil decreased by 2.8% MoM and 15.2% YoY, prices for pork with fat decreased by 3.9% MoM and 12.9% YoY, and prices for snakehead fish decreased by 2.4% MoM and 3.9% YoY.

See Annex 1 and 2 for additional food commodity prices.



Sub-national: Price differences and changes in urban and rural areas

In January 2024, the retail prices of most monitored food commodities (graphic below left) followed a similar trend in both rural and urban areas, with prices mostly decreasing. However, there were exceptions with mixed rice and orange sweet potatoes, which experienced price increases.

The WFP basic food basket cost varied by province (map below right), with the Baray market, Kampong Thom province (USD 30.0) being 13% above the national average while the Stoung market, Kampong Thom province (USD 23.2) being 12% lower than the national average. Price deviations above the national average, particularly those more than 10%, were predominantly observed in rural markets.



Terms of Trade

(lanuary 2024)

Unskilled Labor Wage and Purchasing Power

Unskilled Labor Wage (January 2024)

The Agricultural Marketing Office (AMO) under the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) gathers monthly data on unskilled labor wages in agriculture and construction sectors nationwide. As of January 2024, the average daily wage for unskilled labor remained steady at 36,200 Riels (approximately USD 8.8), compared to the previous month. However, there was a notable year-on-year increase of 10.9%.

The terms of trade (ToT) is used to assess household food purchasing power for vulnerable households, computed by the ratio of the daily wage rates of unskilled labor and the average prices of daily basic food basket². In January 2024, the ToT showed a moderate month-on-month increase of 2.9% and exhibited a significant rise compared to the same period in the previous year. This trend indicates an improvement in the affordability of a basic food basket for unskilled labor. The increase in ToT was primarily driven by a continuous reduction in the cost of the food basket, which offset a slight decline in unskilled labor wages.



¹ This refers to the nominal wage, not adjusted for inflation.

² The cost of the Basic Food Basket (BFB) is initially calculated on a monthly basis to reflect the total cost for a month. However, for the purpose of calculating the terms of trade (ToT), this monthly cost is converted into a daily value to provide a per-day estimation.

Seasonal monitoring: Rainfall patterns

In January 2024, Cambodia continued to experience rainfall* below the national long-term average (graph bottom left). Most provinces in the southern and western parts of the country experienced below-normal rainfall, while northeastern provinces received rainfall within normal conditions (map bottom right).

The El Niño, La Niña, and Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Forecast indicates that El Niño conditions are projected to persist until May 2024, leading to drier and warmer weather in the region. According to the seasonal forecast from the <u>International Research Institute (IRI) of Columbia University</u> and the <u>European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)</u>, most provinces in Cambodia are expected to experience below-normal to normal rainfall conditions and hotter temperatures from February to April 2024. This is likely to increase pressure on the already high demand for water for drinking, agriculture and industrial usage during this period.



National Average Rainfall (January 2024)

Source: Rainfall from CHIRPS and analysis by WFP

* Cumulative rainfall for a specific month is the sum of the three Dekat (every 10 days) rainfall for that month.



Rainfall Anomaly in January 2024

Seasonal monitoring: Vegetation and crop condition

In January 2024, despite drier and warmer weather conditions, the vegetation in most cultivated crop areas in Cambodia showed normal to above-normal conditions (map on the right), thanks to <u>the presence of irrigation systems</u>.

The cultivation of dry-season paddy has reached approximately <u>817,000 hectares by January 2024</u>, which is about 23% higher than the same period last year. Concurrently, about 260,000 hectares of dryseason paddy have been harvested, with a yield of 4.6 tons per hectare.

in January 2024 ODDAR MEANCHEY STUNG TRENG PREAH VIHEAR RATANAK KIRI BANTEAY MEANCH SIEMREAP PAILI AMPONGTHOM MONDUL KIRI KRATIE PURSAT KAMPONG KAMPONG CHAM CHHNANG TBOUNG KHMUM PHNOM KOH KONG PENH KAMPONG < 50 % SPEU Below 50 - 70 % KANDAL normal 70 - 80 % SVAY 80 - 90 % RIENG 90 - 110 % Normal 110 - 120 % KAMPOT 120 - 130 % PREAH SIHANOUK A boy e 130 - 150 % normal > 150 % KEP 1 Non-cropping areas

Normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI) Anomaly

Source: NDVI from MODIS and analysis by WFP

Trade

In January 2024. Cambodia's total official exports (excluding value of non-monetary gold) continued their upward trend, experiencing a significant increase of 27% compared to the same month in the previous year, reaching approximately USD 1,967 million. The exports are primarily destined for the United States, Vietnam, China, Japan, and Thailand. The cost of food exports amounted to USD 210 million (right-hand side chart) including cereals worth USD 177 million (+78% YoY), and other foods (such as meat, edible meat offal, edible vegetables, roots, tubers, animal/ vegetable fats and oils) worth USD 33 million (+60% YoY). In the first month of 2024, a total of 46,221 MT of milled rice, valued at USD 32.6 million) were exported (guoted by Phnom Penh Post, 11 February 2024). This volume marked a 25% increase compared to the same period in the previous year. Additionally, according to the same source, over 600,000 MT of paddy rice, equivalent to USD 184 million, were exported during the same timeframe.

Cambodia's total official imports (excluding value of non-monetary gold) in January 2024 showed a significant increase, of 33% compared to the same month in the previous year, amounting to USD 2,090 million. The imports primarily originate from China, Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore, and Malaysia. Within Cambodia's total imports, the cost of food imports amounted to USD 106 million including cereals worth USD 7 million (+60% YoY) and other foods worth USD 99 million (+7% YoY). During the same period, the country also imported fertilizer worth USD 26 million (+43% YoY), mainly from Vietnam, Thailand, and China, fuel worth <u>308</u> million (+8% YoY).

Cambodian trade balance (value in million USD) of key commodity groups, as of January 2024



Source: <u>General Department of Customs and</u> <u>Excise</u>, accessed on 14 February 2024

Policy response

Social policy response

Since June 2020, the Government has implemented a nationwide cash transfer program for poor and vulnerable households disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. More than **704,000 poor households** classified as IDPoor (approximately 2.77 million people) received a total of **USD 1,306 million** in cash transfers between 25 June 2020 to 24 January 2024. This program is scheduled to end in March 2024. This will be succeeded by the "**New National Social Assistance Programme Framework" in the Family Package**, effective from April 2024, with a total reserved budget of **USD 165 million**.

The government, through the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training, is introducing **a social security system for child healthcare**. This initiative prioritizes children's well-being and aims to enhance their health for future human resource development (<u>quoted by the Khmer</u> <u>Times, 31 January 2024</u>).

The government plans to allocate almost **USD 450 million to enhance healthcare services for approximately 9 million people nationwide**. Additionally, it aims to support other public services, particularly for impoverished and vulnerable families, aligning with the National Social Protection Policy (SPPF) (quoted by the Khmer Times, 7 February 2024).

Economic response

The government plans to impose a **temporary ban on the import of offal and frozen meat**, except the qualified import goods, for six months. However, as the ban cannot be permanent, Cambodia should explore local investment opportunities to boost competitiveness (quoted by the Khmer Times, 31 January 2024).

The Agricultural and Rural Development Bank (ARDB) allocates **USD 100 million for government program to stabilize agricultural prices**. It supports rice millers/exporters with working capital financing, aiding rice procurement, ensuring price stability, and boosting Cambodia's food security and exports (quoted by the Phnom Penh Post, 7 February 2024).

Cambodia's economy is transitioning from Iabor-focused to skills-oriented, driven by technology. The 2023-2035 roadmap by the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training, which aims to equip every citizen with at least one vocational skill through inclusive learning opportunities, delineates the path towards a skills-based economy by addressing educational disparities (quoted by the Khmer Times, 8 February 2024).



Source: Content produced by ChatGPT

Number of population received COVID-19 vaccination



Source: Ministry of Health of Cambodia, 31 January 2024

Methods and market locations



In November 2019, WFP began monitoring food prices in selected markets using a call center. Trained operators called traders once a month to collect data on 36 food commodities in 14 urban and rural markets in Battambang, Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Thom, Otdar Meanchey, Siem Reap, Preah Vihear and Stung Treng.

In March 2020, WFP, in collaboration with the Agricultural Marketing Office (AMO) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), conducted a market survey in 31 additional markets to collect baseline data and expand the geographic coverage of markets. In these markets, the price of 16 key food commodities and information on market functionality is also collected.

From mid-April 2020, WFP expanded remote market monitoring to all 45 markets and increased the frequency to twice a month (i.e., the 1st and 3rd weeks of the month).

In mid-September 2022, WFP included 15 additional food and non-food commodities (see annex) and expanded the market coverage to 56 markets.

In January 2024, WFP included 2 additional markets (named Bort Rom Doul and Phnum Kravanh market) under HGSFP's new procurement pilot, located in Pursat province and collected price data of 78 commodities, including 27 additional food commodities (see annex 1 & 2). This 27 additional food commodities will also be included for routine data collection in other HGSFP.

Annex 1: Change in retail prices

Food Commodity	Unit in Riels per	Average prices of current	con	Change npared to at month		Change mpared to last 3	con	Change npared to ne month,	Food Commodity	Unit in Riels per	Average prices of current	Change compared to last month		Change npared to last 3	cor	Change mpared to ne month,	Food Commodity	Unit in Riels per	Average prices of current	com	nange pared to month	com	hange pared to ast 3	com	Change Spared to Se month,
		month				months		ist year		-	month			months		ast year	Dia a tana aria d		month			m	onths	la	st year
Mixed Rice	Kg	2,763	>	1.2%	→	1.6%	1	32.3%	Carrot*	Kg	3,063	→ -1.8%	>	-3.0%	•	-12.4%	Ripe tamarind (No seed)	Kg	8,000	•		•		•	
30-35% broken rice	Kg	2,800	•		•		•		Ivy gourd leave*	Kg	4,397		↓	-11.5%	•	-12.0%	Water lily	Kg	3,333	•		•		•	
Snakehead fish (Live)	Kg	10,347	→	-2.4%	¥	-13.7%)	-3.9%	Moringa leaves*	Kg	5,578	↑ 9.2%	1	7.2%	1	9.9%	Climbing wattle	Kg	16,333	•		•		•	
Trey Pra (Live)	Kg	6,800	≁	-5.9%	↓	-8.8%	→	-0.5%	Chinese spinach*	Kg	3,164		↓	-33.8%	¥	-9.7%	Lufa Gourd leaf	Kg	3,187	•		•		•	
Cat fish (Live)	Kg	7,867	→	4.2%	•	-3.6%	→	2.9%	Pak Choi*	Kg	3,248	↓ -7.8%	↓	-26.9%	→	-4.6%	Agati	Kg	7,667	•		•		•	
Dried snake fish	Kg	26,702	-	-1.3%	→	-2.5%)	1.6%	Chinese flowering cabbage	Kg	2,953	↓ -8.0%	↓	-28.9%	→	-0.2%	Abalone mushroom	Kg	8,000	•		•		•	
Broahok	Kg	9,264	>	-2.5%	>	3.4%	>	3.2%	Mustard Greens*	Kg	3,079		•	-22.8%	-	-3.1%	Cabbage	Kg	2,500	•		•		•	
Trey Por	Kg	10,333	•		•		•		Amaranthus*	Kg	3,560	 ↓ -15.7% 	•	-15.3%	<u> </u>	-16.8%	Chinese salad	-	3,333	•		•		•	
Red Tailed Catfish	Kg		•		•		•		Ngob leaves*	-	5,442	 → -1.2% 		0.5%		3.2%		Kg		•		•		•	
Catfish	Kg		•		•		•		Pumpkin leaves*	Kg	4,634	 ✓ -1.2% ✓ -11.2% 		1.5%		-3.4%	Bean sprout Baby water	Kg	2,667	•		-		–	
Pork with fat	Kg	14,284	→	-3.9%	¥	-7.7%	•	-12.9%	Pumpkin fruit*	Kg Kg	2,443	 → -3.2% 		1.6%	J	-15.2%	melon	Kg	2,208	•		•		•	
Pork ribs	Kg	12,667	•		•		•			-		 ✓ -3.2% ✓ -7.4% 		2.3%	•	=13.270	Okra	Kg	5,333	•		•		•	
Pork bone	Kg	10,000	•		•		•		Bottle gourd*	Kg	2,675	• 7.470				25.49/	Baby corn	Kg	2,333	•		•		•	
Pork legs	Kg	10,000	•		•		•		Wax gourd	Кд	2,863	↑ 15.9%	1	14.5%		25.4%	Corn	Kg	3,333	•		•		•	
Beef with fat	Kg	15,775	→	-3.8%	•	-7.0%	•	-19.2%	Long eggplants	Кд	2,985	→ -3.3%	-	-0.2%	<u>├</u>	-21.0%	Palm fruit	Kgl	5,000	•		•		•	
Chicken meat	Kg	14,295		7.2%	→	-1.9%		0.7%	Round eggplants*	Kg	3,309	 ↓ -5.9% ↓ -30.6% 	1 1	6.3%	↓	-10.8%	(sliced) Cucumber	Kg	2,000	•		•		•	
(Farm) Chicken meat			.	7.270		-1.570	-		Tomatoes*	Kg	3,443	• -30.070	Т Т	-15.3%		-20.3%	Taro	Kg	4,500	•		•		•	
(CP)	Kg	10,000	•		•		•		Spong gourd	Kg	2,514	• -12.770	· ·	-10.0%	 ♥	-16.6%	Chinese radish	Kg	2,458	•		•		•	
Duck egg	10 eggs	5,025	•	-7.3%	•	-13.0%	•	-6.4%	Ridge Gourd*	Kg	2,685		•	-5.6%	 ♥	-11.1%	Bamboo shoot	Kg	8,167	•		•		•	
Salty duck egg	10 eggs	6,972	>	-1.0%	>	-3.8%	→	0.4%	Green papaya*	Kg	1,281	→ 0.8%	→	-4.2%	•	-24.7%	Ripe Banana	-	2,102	<u> </u>	-2.8%	<u>ч</u>	-7.2%		-2.5%
Vegetable Oil	5 litres	25,267	>	-2.8%	¥	-5.3%	•	-15.2%	Long bean	Kg	4,413	→ -1.3%	1	14.9%	1	16.0%	-	Kg	2,102		0.0%		75.4%	4	-21.1%
lodized salt	Kg	1,273	•	2.5%	•	0.5%	→	-4.6%	Banana flower*	Kg	2,377	→ 4.9%	>	-1.8%	1	5.4%	Ripe Mango	Kg		-	0.0%	T	75.4%	•	-21.1%
Fish sauce (Lobster)	730 ml	3,425	→	-1.1%	•	-0.2%	→	1.3%	Cauliflower*	Kg	4,963		•	-37.5%	•	-12.2%	Ripe Pineapple	Kg	2,912	•		-		Ⅰ •	
Ground Nut*	Kg	9,774	→	-3.9%	→	-1.6%	→	-1.8%	Chinese Kale*	Kg	4,265		•	-29.6%	•	-6.6%	Fresh milk	140 ml	1,980	→ -	-3.5%	•	-6.9%		20.2%
Soy bean	Kg	5,568	↑	7.4%	-	0.3%	→	3.5%	Orange-flesh Sweet Potatoes*	Kg	2,452	→ -4.7%	>	-4.3%	•	-22.2%	Coke Gasoline	330 ml	1,997	→	-0.1%	→	-0.1%	*	0.5%
Green bean/mung	Kg	5,933	→	-0.8%	→	-0.7%	→	0.3%	Garlic	Kg	7,057	→ -1.3%	-	-0.9%	1	37.0%	(Regular)	litre	4,111	→	-2.4%	•	-8.6%	`	-2.9%
bean			- -				<u>т</u>		Ripe tamarind	Kg	3,756	↓ -5.2%	-	-3.1%	¥	-8.7%	Diesel	litre	4,093	 → → 	-1.9%	↑	-10.8%	↓	-9.6%
Morning glory	Kg	2,980		-9.3%		-8.7%	Ľ *	-6.6%	(With seed)								Fertilizer: Urea	Kg	2,764	7	-4.5%	•	-6.6%	Ľ	-21.0%

Note: Price data and change are reported in nominal terms/prices, *i.e.*, prices observed in the market place.

* Prices for these food commodities are only collected in markets in provinces where home-grown school feeding is implemented.

Change in the price compared to last month(s) and last year:

- ↑ Increase when % > 5
- → Stable when % between 5 and -5
- ↓ Decrease when % < -5
 </p>
- No prices recorded

Annex 2: Change in wholesale prices

Food Commodity	Unit in Riels per	Average prices of current month	com	hange pared to t month	cor	Change mpared to last 3 months	con sam	Change npared to ne month, st year	Food Commodity	Unit in Riels per	Average prices of current month	Change compared to last month	o coi	Change mpared to last 3 months	cor san	Change mpared to me month, ast year	Food Commodity	Unit in Riels per	Average prices of current month	Change compared last mont	to coi h	Change npared to last 3 months	con sam	Change npared to ne month, ist year
Mixed Rice	Kg	2,621	>	1.7%	>	2.0%	1	35.1%	Carrot*	Kg	2,498	→ -1.1%	>	2.5%	•	-14.3%	Ripe tamarind (No seed)	Kg		•	•		•	
30-35% broken rice	Kg	2,600	•		•		•		Ivy gourd leave*	Kg	3,321	↓ -11.7%	¥	-10.7%	↓	-17.7%	Water lily	Kg	4,500	•	•		•	
Snakehead fish (Live)	Kg	9,413	→	-1.1%	¥	-12.7%)	-4.0%	Moringa leaves*	Kg	4,038	→ 2.5%	1	6.0%	→	2.7%	Climbing wattle	Kg	9,500	•	•		•	
Trey Pra (Live)	Kg	6,096	→	-4.8%	¥	-8.9%	>	0.1%	Chinese spinach*	Kg	2,474		≁	-38.3%	•	-12.1%	Lufa Gourd leaf	Kg	3,500	•	•		•	
Cat fish (Live)	Kg	6,924	→	1.9%	-	-4.7%	→	0.5%	Pak Choi*	Kg	2,587	↓ -5.8%	•	-29.3%	>	-4.3%	Agati	Kg	7,000	•	•		•	
Dried snake fish	Kg	24,306	>	-1.6%	→	-4.2%	>	0.3%	Chinese flowering cabbage	Kg	2,256		¥	-35.0%	→	-2.8%	Abalone mushroom	Kg	6,750	•	•		•	
Broahok	Kg	8,217	>	-1.5%	>	4.6%	→	3.8%	Mustard Greens*	Kg	2,456	↓ -10.5%	•	-23.8%	→	0.3%	Cabbage	Kg	2,250	•	•		•	
Trey Por	Kg	9,833	•		•		•		Amaranthus*	Kg	2,646	↓ -23.1%	•	-16.3%	•	-19.8%	Chinese salad	Kg	3,167	•	•		•	
Red Tailed Catfish	Kg		•		•		•		Ngob leaves*	Kg	4,457	→ 3.0%	1	11.6%	1	7.5%	Bean sprout	Kg	2,400	•	•		•	
Catfish	Kg		•		•		•		Pumpkin leaves*	Kg	3,795	↓ -5.8%	1	11.7%	→	2.2%	Baby water	-	2,100	•	•		•	
Pork with fat	Kg	13,136	→	-3.4%	¥	-7.6%	¥	-12.4%	Pumpkin fruit*	Kg	1,869	→ -2.7%	-	0.3%	•	-22.0%	melon	Kg	,	-				
Pork ribs	Kg	11,667	•		•		•		Bottle gourd*	Kg	2,000	→ -3.0%	•	-6.0%	•		Okra	Kg	5,000	•	•		•	a
Pork bone	Kg	9,333	•		•		•		Wax gourd	Kg	2,281	↑ 21.7%	1	18.5%	1	27.6%	Baby corn	Kg	2,167	•	•		•	a
Pork legs	Kg	9,333	•		•		•		Long eggplants	Kg	2,389	→ -3.9%	-	-1.3%	•	-23.3%	Corn Palm fruit	Kg	3,500	•	•		•	a
Beef with fat	Kg	14,373	>	-3.8%	↓	-5.8%	↓	-19.1%	Round eggplants*	-	2,662	→ -5.0%	1	11.9%	•	-14.0%	(sliced)	Kgl	5,000	•	•		•	
Chicken meat (Farm)	Kg	13,193	↑	6.4%	→	-1.9%	→	0.7%	Tomatoes*	Kg	2,753	↓ -34.9%	•	-18.4%	•	-24.9%	Cucumber	Kg	1,600	•	•		•	
Chicken meat (CP)	Kg	10,000	•		•		•		Spong gourd	Kg	1,942	↓ -15.3%	¥	-9.6%	•	-16.8%	Taro	Kg	3,900	•	•		•	
Duck egg	10 eggs	4,583	•	-7.5%	¥	-14.0%	•	-5.9%	Ridge Gourd*	Kg	2,138	↓ -7.5%	-	0.2%	•	-7.9%	Chinese radish	Kg	1,767	•	•		•	
Salty duck egg	10 eggs	6,340	→	-2.6%	→	-4.6%	→	-1.2%	Green papaya*	Kg	845	↓ -8.0%	¥	-6.8%	•	-36.2%	Bamboo shoot	Kg	6,250	•	•		•	
Vegetable Oil	5 litres	24,298	→	-2.8%	→	-4.4%	•	-15.7%	Long bean	Kg	3,620	→ -1.9%	1	15.5%	↑	13.1%	Ripe Banana	Kg	1,654	→ -3.6%	6 🔸	-8.7%	¥	-5.8%
lodized salt	Kg	1,002	→	2.9%	→	0.1%	•	-8.6%	Banana flower*	Kg	1,765	→ -4.0%	¥	-7.0%	→	-3.9%	Ripe Mango	Kg	1,720		ó 🕇	67.8%	↓	-37.1%
Fish sauce	730 ml	3,116	→	2.4%	→	3.5%	→	3.1%	Cauliflower*	Kg	4,109	↓ -32.6%	¥	-41.4%	•	-16.1%	Ripe Pineapple	Kg	2,200	•	•		•	
(Lobster) Ground Nut*	Kg	8,935	<u></u>	-2.6%	→	0.0%	<u> </u>	-3.2%	Chinese Kale*	Kg	3,374		•	-35.5%	4	-12.2%	Fresh milk	140 ml	1,827	→ 0.09	6)	-4.3%	1	22.1%
Soy bean	Kg	5,144	1	10.3%	- ->	4.8%	- ->	2.3%	Orange-flesh Sweet Potatoes*	Kg	1,938	→ -0.3%	¥	-6.1%	¥	-25.4%	Coke Gasoline	330 ml	1,610	→ 2.19	_	2.5%	→	2.1%
Green	Ka.	5,445	-	-0.4%	_	-1.0%	<u> </u>	0.3%	Garlic	Kg	6,545	→ 2.5%	>	0.2%	1	42.9%	(Regular)	litre	3,987	→ -0.7%	6 •	-6.9%)	-1.7%
bean/mung bean	Kg	5,445		-0.4%		-1.0%	Ĺ	0.3%	Ripe tamarind		3,331	→ -2.6%		0.4%	Ţ	-6.7%	Diesel	litre	3,997	→ -0.69	6 4	-8.4%	•	-9.5%
Morning glory	Kg	2,374	¥	-9.9%	¥	-9.1%	↓	-11.2%	(With seed)	Kg	3,331	-2.6%		0.4%		-0.7%	Fertilizer: Urea	Kg	2,325		6 🗸	-6.3%	¥	-23.8%

Note: Price data and change are reported in nominal terms/prices, *i.e.*, prices observed in the market place.

* Prices for these food commodities are only collected in markets in provinces where home-grown school feeding is implemented.

Change in the price compared to last month(s) and last year:

- ↑ Increase when % > 5
- → Stable when % between 5 and -5
- ↓ Decrease when % < -5
 </p>
- No prices recorded

Annex 3: Cost of a basic food basket

The development of the basic food basket presented in this report draws heavily from WFP's Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) analyses in Cambodia. To construct the food basket used in those analyses, a reference cohort from the 2014 Cambodia Socio Economic Survey (CSES) dataset was established based on the following criteria:

- i. Household total monthly expenditures falls between the 2nd and 4th quintiles;
- ii. Household has adequate food security (acceptable food consumption score);
- iii. Household did not utilize any negative coping strategies.

A food basket for this reference cohort was then established to understand if the consumption patterns were in line with what would be expected of a household to live a healthy and active life.¹ To do this, certain food items were identified to represent the categories captured in the food expenditure module (see Table 2 for the full list). The kilocalories of each food were identified and the quantities were derived from the CSES 2014 expenditure data to determine if the calories in the basket were in line with what one would expect of a person living a healthy and active life from a rights-based perspective.

Food category ²	Food commodity ³	Food commodity ⁴	kcal/pers on/day ²	g/perso n/day ²	Riels/g ⁴	Riels/perso n/month ⁴
Cereals	Rice	1.1. អង្ករចម្រុះ/ Mixed Rice	1,470.23	413.0	2.8	34,701
Fish	Mud fish	2.1. ព្រីផ្ទក់(រស់)/ Snakehead fish (Live)	76.47	91.0	10.3	28,650
Meat	Pork	3.1. សាច់ជ្រក៣ជាន់/ 3- layer pork/Pork with fat	77.75	40.7	14.3	17,686
Egg	Duck egg	4.1. ស៊ិតទា/Duck egg	21.92	11.8	8.0	2,897
Diary	Milk	NA	7	12.0		
Oil	Vegetable oil	5.1. ប្រេងឆា/ Vegetable Oil: Saji ឬ Mongsay ឬ Cailan	115.36	12.8	5.6	2,167
Veg	Morning Glory	8.1. ត្រាក្លាន/ Morning glory	34.76	231.7	3.0	21,007
Tuber	Sweet Potato	8.25. ដំឡុងជាពណ៌លឿង/ Orange-flesh Sweet Potatoes	19.21	19.6	2.5	1,462
Pulses	Soybean/green bean	NA	8	21.6		
Fruit	Banana	NA	91	96.4		
		Total	1,937	950.6		108,600

Table 2. Summary of inputs for calculation of basic food basket

Because the WFP market monitoring system does not capture prices for a few food commodities (i.e., milk, soybean/green bean and banana) used in the MEB analyses, these had to be dropped for the balanced food basket tracked in this report. Nevertheless, the dietary pattern reflected by the food items (and their weights, as captured in the g/person/day values) serve as a useful proxy for the cost of basic food basket in Cambodia.

¹ The basic food basket described and used in this market update should <u>not</u> be confused or conflated with the food basket used by the Ministry of Planning National Institute of Statistics (NIS) to construct national poverty lines. The basket in this report is constructed differently and is useful primarily as a proxy for food prices.

² Cambodia Socioeconomic Survey 2014. National Institute of Statistics, Cambodia.

³ Estimating Minimum Expenditure Baskets And Expenditure Gaps In Cambodia. Technical Report, June 2020. WFP Cambodia.

⁴ Market and Seasonal Monitoring Update, January 2024. WFP Cambodia.