

The Market Monitor

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For more information, contact:
wfp.economicanalysis@wfp.org

Highlights



In about 80 percent of the countries which WFP monitors, seasonally adjusted prices for food baskets did not show significant increases in Q1-2019 with respect to the previous quarter. Several African countries, however, saw sharp food price increases. These came on the back of market and supply chain disruptions related to conflict and insecurity (Congo DR, Central African Republic) or natural disaster..



Year-on-year, tight supplies due to rainfall deficits and currency devaluation with consequent soaring input and fuel costs drove the price of the food basket up by more than 50 percent in Zambia and Sudan. Against the baseline of the last five years, it remained 50 percent higher in Angola, Egypt, Iran, South Sudan, Ukraine and Yemen. These elevated price levels are primarily a result of the sustained eff..

[Food price trends: view more](#)



As in Q4-2018, year-on-year headline inflation was very high (between 40 and 60 percent) in Iran, Sudan and Zimbabwe, driven by currency devaluations amid the re-imposition of sanctions, higher taxes and a liquidity crisis, respectively. The Venezuelan Bolivar continues to stand out for its dramatic loss of value (99.9 per..

[Inflation and currency: view more](#)

Food price hotspots - the ALert for Price Spikes

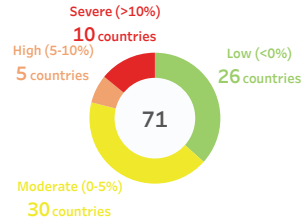
In Q1-2019, the ALert for Price Spikes (ALPS) indicator detected price spikes at crisis level ..



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[ALert for Price Spikes Indicator: view more](#)

Price trends' impact on cost of the food basket



The cost of the basic food basket increased severely (>10 percent) in six countries during Q1-2019: Central African Republic, Congo (DR), El Salvador, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Sierra Leone.

High increases (5-10 percent) were seen in Congo, Dominican Republic, Georgia, Guatemala, Somalia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[Food basket cost changes: view more](#)

International prices

In Q1-2019, the FAO food price index was up by 2.4 percent from the previous quarter driven by a sharp increase in dairy prices. The cereal price index held stable.

Cereals Wheat

Q1-2019 Demand and supply of wheat was stable as the price of wheat remained stable

[Global cereal market update: view more](#)

Crude oil price

In Q1-2019, the price of crude oil decreased by 6 percent quarter-on-quarter. The decli...

[Fuel prices: view more](#)