

The Market Monitor

WFP VAM | Food Security Analysis

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Impact of Staple Food Price Trends on Cost of the Food Basket..

Highlights



During Q1-2020, fifteen countries recorded 'severe' impact on the cost of their food baskets. Lebanon's depleting US dollar reserves continued to impair wheat imports, driving up prices of the staple in the country. Similarly, the plummeting value of the Syrian pound against the US dollar led to surging do..



Other key factors behind upward pressure on the cost of food baskets included: soaring input costs (Sudan); supply shortages (Mozambique, CAR, Zambia); strong seasonal demand (Sierra Leone); and disrupted trade flows (Chad, Rwanda).

[Food price trends: View more](#)

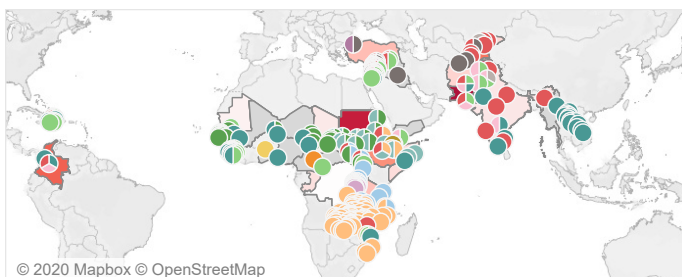


Quarter-on-quarter food inflation was exceptionally high in Myanmar and Zimbabwe, both at around 24 percent in Q1-2020. In Lebanon, the protracting economic and financial crisis led to 12 percent food inflation quarter-on-quarter. Zimbabwe recorded the highest headline inflation quarter..

[Inflation and currency: View more](#)

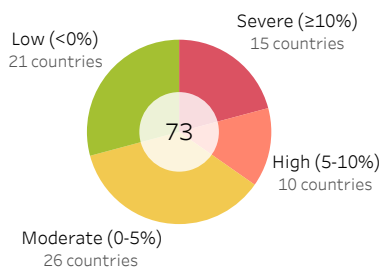
Food Price Hotspots - ALert for Price Spikes

In Q1-2020, the ALert for Price Spikes (ALPS) indicator detected price spikes at crisis level for the two most important staples in 12 countries.



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[ALert for Price Spikes indicator: View more](#)



The cost of the basic food basket increased severely (>10 percent) in **fifteen** countries during Q1-2020: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Lebanon, Libya, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Turkey, and Zambia.

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

International Prices

Global Indices

Quarter-on-quarter, the FAO Food Price Index held steady with respect to Q4-2019, masking a declining trend over the first months of 2020 (-6 percent), m..

Cereal Prices

Maize

Over the first quarter of 2020, the real price of maize showed a mild decrease (2 percent lower than in Q1-2019). Production remained at high levels while deman..

[Global cereal market: View more](#)

Fuel Prices

The price of crude oil plummeted, going down by 48 percent over Q1-2020 (by 19 percent on average with respect to Q4-2019), as containment measures in respo..

[Fuel prices: View more](#)