

## Initial Market Price Bulletin for the month of **November 2016** (Reported in December 2016)

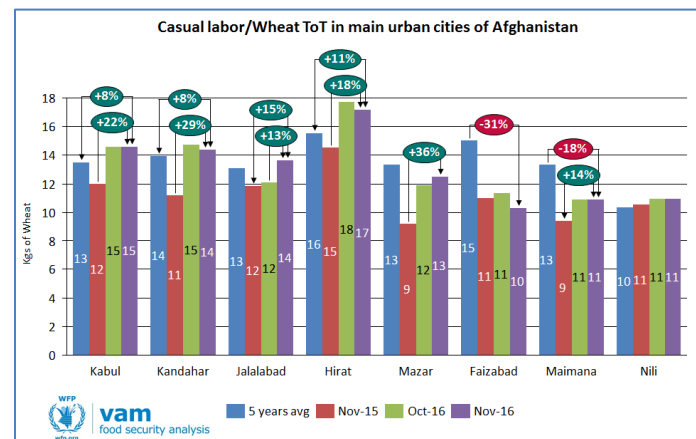
### HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Wheat:** The current average wheat price in main cities' markets of Afghanistan (AFN 23.5/Kg) is negligibly lower by 3.3% compared to the same time last year (November 2015), but negligibly higher by 3.9% compared to the last 5-year average price of the same months (Novembers 2011 - 2015).
- **Wheat flour (High Price)** The current retail price (AFN 29.1/kg) is slightly lower by 4.4% compared to the same month last year (November 2015), and negligibly higher by 1.1% compared to the last 5-year average price of the same months.
- **Rice** is considered as the 2<sup>nd</sup> main staple food in Afghanistan. The current average retail price of Low Quality Rice (AFN 42.2/kg) is slightly higher by 4.9% compared to the same month last year (November 2015), and slightly higher by 3.1% compared to the last 5-year average price of the same months. The current average price of High Quality Rice (AFN 75.7/kg) is slightly lower by 4.1% compared to the same month last year (November 2015), and negligibly lower by 3.1% compared to the last 5-year 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.*

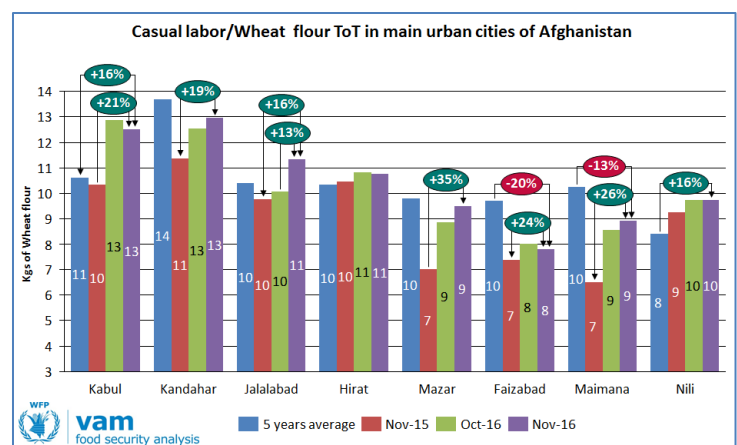
- Labor wage/Wheat average ToT for the reporting month was 13.0 Kgs of Wheat. On average, this ToT negligibly improved (by 0.2%) from October to November 2016, mainly due to negligible increased wage labor by 1.2%. In the last three proceeding years, this improvement was not experienced in, While deteriorated in;
  - October to November 2015 (by 5.3%)
  - October to November 2014 (by 3.2%)
  - October to November 2013 (by 8.9%)
- In comparison to the same month one year ago (November 2015), this ToT significantly improved by 16.4%, mainly due to increased labor wage (by 11.0%) as well slightly decreased of wheat price (by 3.3%).
- On the two-year comparison (November 2014), this ToT significantly improved by 12.4%.
- Compared to the 5-year average of the same months (Novembers 2011-2015), this ToT slightly deteriorated by 3.4%.



**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 10.4 Kgs of Wheat flour which slightly improved by 2.6% from October to November 2016, mainly due to negligible increased wage labor by 1.2% and decreased wheat flour price by 1.5%. This improvement was experienced only in;

- October to November 2014 (by 1.0%)
- While deteriorated during;
- October to November 2015 (by 0.9%)
  - October to November 2013 (by 6.7%)



- Compared to the same month one year ago (November 2015), this ToT significantly improved by 15.8 %, mainly due to increased labor wage (by 11.0%) and decreased wheat flour price (by 4.4%).
- On the two-year comparison (November 2014), this ToT significantly improved by 10.9%.
- Compared to the 5-year average of the same months (Novembers 2011 - 2015), this ToT negligibly improved by 0.4%.

**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.*

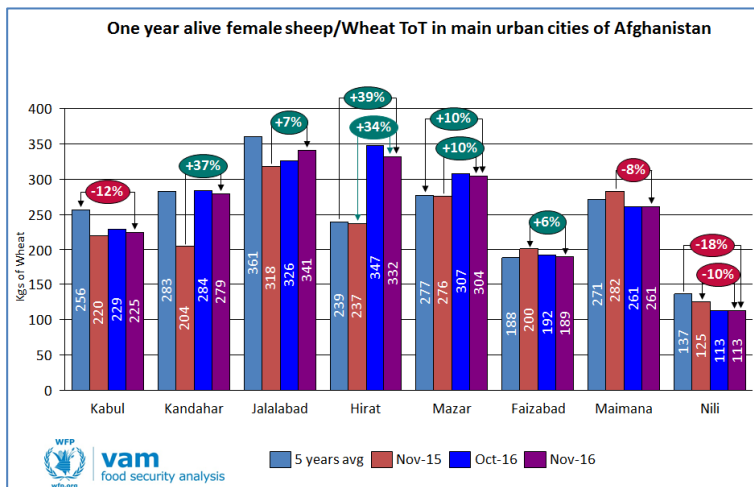
Sheep/Wheat average ToT for the reporting month was 255 Kgs of wheat against one-year alive female sheep, which negligibly deteriorated by 0.7% from October to November 2016, mainly due to increased wheat price (by 0.9%). In the last three proceeding years, this deterioration was experienced in;

- October to November 2014 (by 4.2%)
- October to November 2013 (by 9.9%)

While improved only during;

- October to November 2015 (by 0.3%)

- Compared to the same month one year ago (November 2015), this ToT slightly improved by 9.7%, which is mainly due to increased sheep price (by 5.0%) and decreased wheat price by 3.3%.
- On the two-year comparison (November 2014) this ToT slightly improved by 8.6%.
- Compared to 5-year average of the same months (Novembers 2011 - 2015), this ToT negligibly improved by 1.6%.



**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.*

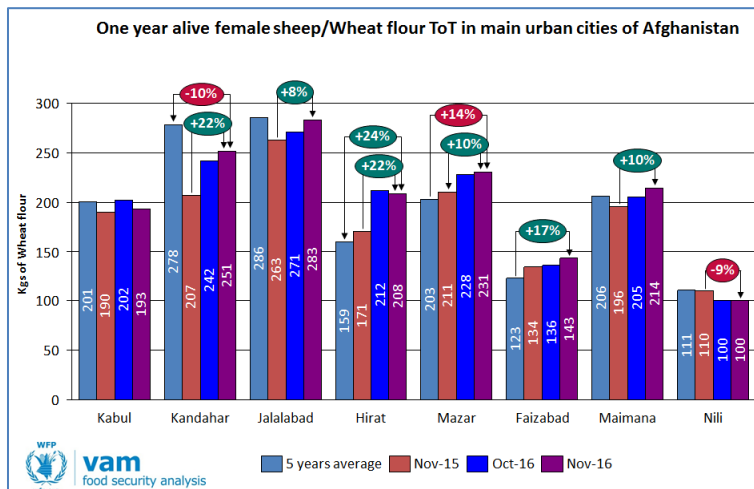
Sheep-Wheat flour (HP) average ToT for the reporting month was 203 Kgs of Wheat flour against one-year alive female sheep, which negligibly improved by 1.8% from October to November 2016, mainly due to decreased wheat flour price by 1.5% and increased sheep price (by 0.5%). In the last three proceeding years, this improvement was experienced only in;

- October to November 2015 (by 3.7%)

While deteriorated during;

- October to November 2014 (by 0.7%)
- October to November 2013 (by 7.9%)

- Compared to the same month one year ago (November 2015), this ToT slightly improved by 9.7%, mainly due to increased sheep price (by 5.0%) and decreased wheat flour price (by 4.4%).
- On the two-year comparison (November 2014), this ToT slightly improved by 7.3%.
- Compared to 5-year average of the same months (Novembers 2011 - 2015), this ToT negligibly improved by 3.7%.



### Retail Price of Wheat Grain in Main Urban Cities:

- The monthly average price of Wheat in main cities' markets of Afghanistan was AFN 23.5/Kg in November 2016. Compared to the past month (October 2016), the average price negligibly increased by 0.9%. The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (0.0% to 3.3%). In the last three proceeding years, this increase was experienced in;

- October to November 2015 (by 2.8%)
- October to November 2014 (by 2.5%)
- October to November 2013 (by 3.9%)
- Compared to the same month one year ago (November 2015), the average wheat price negligibly decreased by 3.3%. The highest decrease only occurred in Hirat (by 15.4%). The main reason for decrease is due to increased supply of wheat from neighboring district markets compared to the same time of the last year. The variation in the remaining main cities was within a normal range (-9.3% to 8.2%).
- On the two-year comparison (November 2014), the average price negligibly decreased by 3.9%.
- Compared to the last 5-year average price of the same months (Novembers 2011 - 2015), the average price slightly increased by 3.9%.

### Retail Price of Wheat flour in Main Urban Cities:

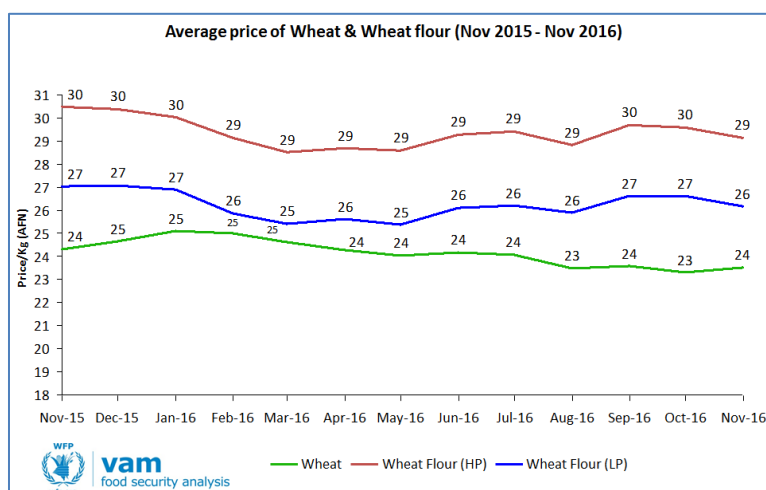
#### Wheat flour (High Price):

- The monthly average price of Wheat flour (High Price) in main cities' markets was AFN **29.1**/Kg in the reporting month (November 2016). The average price negligibly decreased by 1.5% compared to the previous month (October 2016). The highest decrease only occurred in Faizabad (6.6%), mainly due to more supply of Kazakh high quality wheat flour. The variation in other main cities was within a normal limit (-4.3% to 2.8%). In the last three proceeding years, this price decrease was experienced during;
  - October to November 2015 (by 1.6%)
  - October to November 2014 (by 1.5%)

While the price increased during;

- October to November 2013 (by 1.0%)

- Compared to the same month last year (November 2015), the current average price slightly decreased by 4.4%. The highest decrease only occurred in Faizabad (by 14.1%), which was mainly due to increased supply of imported wheat flour from Pakistan and Kazakhstan this year compared to the same time one year ago. The variation in all other remaining main cities was within a normal range (-8.8% to 2.3%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (November 2014), the average price of wheat flour slightly decreased by 4.3%.
- Compared to 5-year average price of the same months (Novembers 2011 - 2015), the average price negligibly decreased by 1.1%.



#### Wheat flour (Low Price):

- The monthly average price of Wheat flour (Low Price) in main cities' markets was AFN **26.2**/Kg in the reporting month (November 2016). The average price negligibly decreased by 1.7% compared to previous month (October 2016). The highest decrease only occurred in Faizabad (by 5.1%), which was mainly due to increased supply of imported wheat flour from Pakistan and Kazakhstan. The variation in other main cities was within a normal range (-4.8% to 1.4%). In the last three proceeding years, this price decrease was not experienced, while increased in;
  - October to November 2015 (by 2.4%)
  - October to November 2014 (by 0.3%)
  - October to November 2013 (by 3.1%)
- Compared to the same month one year ago (November 2015), the current average price negligibly decreased by 3.2%. The highest decrease only occurred in Hirat (by 19.3%) due to increased supply from nearby districts of Hirat province, while the variation in other remaining main cities was within a normal range (-8.7% to 4.8%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (November 2014), the average price slightly decreased by 4.3%.
- Compared to 5-year average price of the same months (Novembers 2011 - 2015), the average price negligibly increased by 1.7%.

## 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 **75.7/Kg** in the reporting month (November 2016) which negligibly decreased by 0.4% compared to the previous month (October 2016). In the last three preceding years, this price decrease was only experienced during;
  - October to November 2014 (by 0.2%)

While the price increased during;

- October to November 2015 (by 1.5%)
- October to November 2013 (by 0.4%)
- Compared to the same month one year ago (November 2015), the average price slightly decreased by 4.1%. The highest decrease only occurred in Maimana (15.5%) due to more supply. The variation in other main cities was within a normal range (-7.3% to 4.3%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (November 2014), the average price significantly decreased by 13.6%.
- Compared to 5-year average price of the some months (Novembers 2011 - 2015), the average price negligibly decreased by 3.1%.

### Rice (Low Quality):

- The monthly average price of Rice (Low Quality) in main cities' markets was AFN **42.2/Kg** in the reporting month (November 2016), which negligibly decreased by 0.9% compared to the previous month (October 2016). The largest decrease only occurred in Kandahar (7.8%), mainly due to seasonal demand decrease by customers. The variation in other remaining main cities was within a normal range (-3.0% to 4.6%).

In the last three preceding years this price decrease was experienced during;

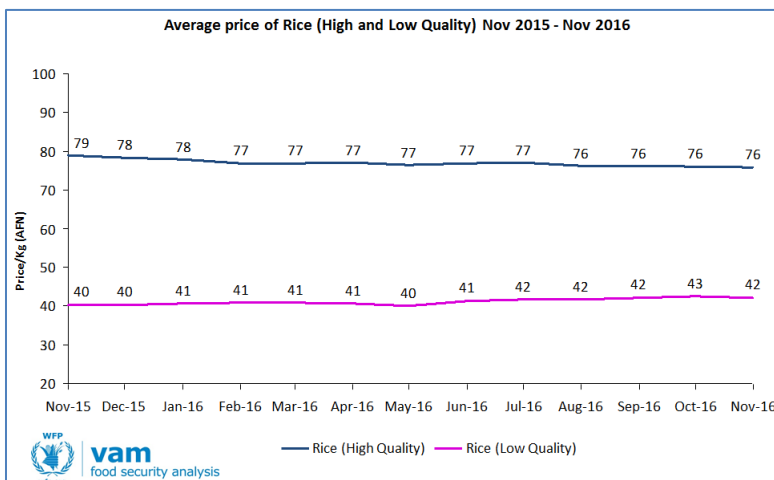
- October to November 2014 (by 0.9%)
- October to November 2013 (by 0.1%)

While the price increased only during;

- October to November 2015 (by 0.6%)

Compared to the same month one year ago (November 2015), the average price slightly increased by 4.9%. The largest increase occurred in Kandahar (28.5%) and Hirat (19.7%), mainly due to decreased supply of low quality rice from Pakistan this year. The variation in other remaining main cities was within a normal range (-7.5% to 8.3%).

- Compared to the same month two years ago (November 2014), the average price negligibly increased by 2.0%.
- Compared to 5-year average price of same months (Novembers 2011 - 2015), the average price negligibly increased by 3.1%.



## Retail Price of Cooking Oil in Main Urban Cities:

- The monthly average price of cooking oil in main cities' markets was AFN **80.6/Kg** in the reporting month (November 2016), being negligibly decreased by 0.7% compared to previous month (October 2016). The variation in all main cities was within a normal range (-3.3% to 0.0%). In the last three preceding years, this decrease was only experienced during;
  - October to November 2014 (by 0.5%)

While the price increased only in;

- October to November 2015 (by 1.0%) and remained unchanged October to November 2013.
- Compared to the same month one year ago (November 2015), the average price slightly increased by 4.2%. The largest increase occurred in Nili (by 13.3%) and Hirat (12.0%), main reason for the increase was increased price of oil by the traders and decreased supply of oil from source points. The variation in all other main cities was within a normal limit (-1.5% to 5.3%).
- Compared to the same month two years ago (November 2014), the average price negligibly increased by 2.3%.
- Compared to 5-year average of the same months (Novembers 2011 - 2015), the average price negligibly decreased by 2.1%.

## Retail Price of Salt, Sugar and No. of days averagely worked by a labourer:

**Salt:** The monthly average price of Salt in November 2016 in main cities' markets was AFN **14**/Kg which is negligibly increased by 0.5% compared to the previous month (October 2016). The only significant increase occurred in Hirat (6.1%). The variation in other main cities was zero. The current average price of salt slightly increased by 1.9% compared to the same month last year (November 2015), and negligibly increased by 0.7% compared to the same month two years ago (November 2014).

**Sugar:** The monthly average price of Sugar in November 2016 in main cities' markets was AFN **54.9**/Kg, being negligibly increased by 1.3% compared to the previous month (October 2016). The current average price of Sugar significantly increased by 28.1% compared to the same month last year (November 2015), and by 23.6% compared to the same month two year ago (November 2014) due to increased price in source points.

**Number of days averagely worked by a labourer:** The monthly average number of days worked by a laborer during November 2016 was reported at 11.5 days. The highest number of working days was in Kabul (16 days), followed by Jalalabad (14 days), Kandahar, Hirat, Mazar and Maimana (12 days), Nili (10 days), while it was least in Faizabad (4.0 days). The average number of days worked by unskilled laborers in main cities of Afghanistan decreased by 1.6% compared to the previous month (October 2016). The significant decrease occurred in Faizabad by 38.5% (2.5 days), Nili by 37.5% (6 days) and Kabul by 20% (4 days), the variation in other main cities remain unchanged.

- Compared to the same month last year (November 2015), the average number of working days decreased by 2.5%. Decreased in Nili 33.3% (5 days), Hirat 25% (4 days) and Kabul 20% (4 days) and increased in Mazar and Kandahar by 50% (4 days), followed by Faizabad by 29.0% (1 day), and Jalalabad by 12% (1.5 days). The variation in other main cities is (0 to 2.1%)
- Compared to the same month two years ago (November 2014), the average number of working days for main cities increased by 1.1%.

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	7.0	-2.0	-4.0	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	Livestock-One year live Sheep (Female)	KABUL	Sheep	5,400	-4.9	-1.8	-1.8	-1.8	▶	▶	▶	▶
	Wheat flour (HP)	28.0	-1.8	4.2	-3.4	2.8	▶	▶	▶	▶		KANDAHAR	Sheep	6,800	0.0	2.5	24.4	0.7	▶	▶	▶	▶
	Rice High Quality	75.0	-8.4	-23.5	-6.3	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶		JALALABAD	Sheep	7,500	1.4	7.1	7.1	7.1	▶	▶	▶	▶
	Rice Low Quality	58.0	27.4	16.0	0.0	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶		HIRAT	Sheep	5,806	25.6	26.2	18.5	-1.2	▶	▶	▶	▶
	Cooking Oil	80.0	-4.5	-1.8	3.9	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶		MAIMANA	Sheep	6,388	14.0	2.2	6.5	-1.0	▶	▶	▶	▶
KANDAHAR	Wheat	24.4	-0.4	-8.2	-9.3	2.5	▶	▶	▶	▶	FAIZABAD	Sheep	4,575	7.8	-6.2	-8.5	-1.6	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Wheat flour (HP)	27.1	8.4	3.0	2.3	-3.1	▶	▶	▶	▶	NILI	Sheep	3,600	-11.5	-14.3	-10.0	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Rice High Quality	62.8	-10.7	-20.0	-1.6	-0.3	▶	▶	▶	▶	Terms of Trade											
	Rice Low Quality	32.8	15.1	13.0	28.5	-7.8	▶	▶	▶	▶	Kgs of Wheat/wheat flour											
	Cooking Oil	76.3	10.1	31.2	-1.5	-1.1	▶	▶	▶	▶	KABUL	Casual Labor/wheat	14.6	8.0	19.1	21.5	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	
JALALABAD	Wheat	22.0	6.8	0.0	0.0	2.3	▶	▶	▶	▶	KANDAHAR	Casual Labor/wheat	14.4	3.1	8.9	28.6	-2.5	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Wheat flour (HP)	26.5	1.5	-10.5	-0.5	2.4	▶	▶	▶	▶	JALALABAD	Casual Labor/wheat	13.6	4.3	15.4	15.4	12.8	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Rice High Quality	76.0	4.1	-7.9	0.0	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	HIRAT	Casual Labor/wheat	17.2	10.5	23.8	18.2	-3.2	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Rice Low Quality	31.0	-20.7	3.3	5.1	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	MAZAR	Casual Labor/wheat	12.5	-8.1	10.0	35.9	5.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Cooking Oil	76.4	-5.2	-1.5	3.2	-1.1	▶	▶	▶	▶	FAIZABAD	Casual Labor/wheat	10.3	-31.4	-14.1	-6.3	-9.1	▶	▶	▶	▶	
HIRAT	Wheat	17.5	-10.1	-19.3	-15.4	3.3	▶	▶	▶	▶	MAIMANA	Casual Labor/wheat	10.9	-18.3	24.8	15.4	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Wheat flour (HP)	27.9	-4.3	-5.5	-2.9	0.4	▶	▶	▶	▶	NILI	Casual Labor/wheat	10.9	5.8	13.0	3.7	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Rice High Quality	61.9	-7.8	-17.5	3.3	0.7	▶	▶	▶	▶	KABUL	Sheep /wheat	225.0	-12.1	3.1	0.0	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Rice Low Quality	29.9	12.4	12.1	19.7	4.6	▶	▶	▶	▶	KANDAHAR	Sheep /wheat	279.0	-1.5	7.0	35.1	0.1	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Cooking Oil	75.1	1.2	5.3	12.0	-3.3	▶	▶	▶	▶	JALALABAD	Sheep /wheat	340.9	-13.2	2.3	2.3	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	
MAZAR	Wheat	21.0	4.0	-4.5	-3.4	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	HIRAT	Sheep /wheat	332.0	39.5	56.0	46.3	3.7	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Wheat flour (HP)	27.7	0.9	-7.7	-2.9	-2.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	MAZAR	Sheep /wheat	304.2	4.4	3.2	10.1	-0.8	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Rice High Quality	74.1	-5.5	-14.8	-7.3	0.2	▶	▶	▶	▶	FAIZABAD	Sheep /wheat	188.7	-5.4	-16.1	15.1	-13.8	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Rice Low Quality	36.0	-6.3	-10.0	-5.3	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	MAIMANA	Sheep /wheat	260.9	-4.5	-4.3	-8.7	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Cooking Oil	80.0	-1.6	2.6	5.3	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	NILI	Sheep /wheat	112.5	-18.8	-17.0	-13.5	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	
FAIZABAD	Wheat	24.3	7.8	-3.0	-3.0	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	KABUL	Casual Labor/wheat flour	12.5	17.8	12.0	20.8	-2.7	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Wheat flour (HP)	32.0	-7.0	-10.5	-14.1	-6.6	▶	▶	▶	▶	KANDAHAR	Casual Labor/wheat flour	12.9	-5.4	-3.0	14.1	3.2	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Rice High Quality	83.0	1.1	-9.8	-7.3	-2.9	▶	▶	▶	▶	JALALABAD	Casual Labor/wheat flour	11.3	9.0	29.0	15.9	12.7	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Rice Low Quality	48.0	-2.9	1.6	4.3	-3.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	HIRAT	Casual Labor/wheat flour	10.8	4.2	5.8	3.0	-0.4	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Cooking Oil	90.0	-12.0	-9.1	-1.1	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	MAZAR	Casual Labor/wheat flour	9.5	-3.2	13.8	35.1	7.1	▶	▶	▶	▶	
MAIMANA	Wheat	23.0	7.1	0.0	8.2	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	FAIZABAD	Casual Labor/wheat flour	7.8	-19.6	-6.9	5.8	-2.7	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Wheat flour (HP)	28.0	-1.5	-6.7	-8.8	-4.3	▶	▶	▶	▶	MAIMANA	Casual Labor/wheat flour	8.9	-12.7	33.9	37.0	4.5	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Rice High Quality	75.0	-6.6	-14.8	-15.5	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	NILI	Casual Labor/wheat flour	9.7	15.6	15.0	5.1	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Rice Low Quality	37.0	-10.9	-7.5	-7.5	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	KABUL	Sheep /wheat flour	192.9	-3.9	-5.8	1.7	-4.4	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Cooking Oil	82.0	-3.8	-1.2	0.5	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	KANDAHAR	Sheep /wheat flour	251.4	-9.7	-0.5	21.6	4.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	
NILI	Wheat	32.0	7.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	JALALABAD	Sheep /wheat flour	283.0	-1.0	19.8	7.6	4.6	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Wheat flour (HP)	36.0	-1.8	1.4	-1.4	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	HIRAT	Sheep /wheat flour	208.2	30.9	33.6	22.1	-1.5	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Rice High Quality	98.0	6.6	-2.0	4.3	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	MAZAR	Sheep /wheat flour	230.7	13.8	10.7	9.6	1.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Rice Low Quality	65.0	11.2	-4.4	8.3	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	FAIZABAD	Sheep /wheat flour	143.0	16.6	4.8	6.5	5.3	▶	▶	▶	▶	
	Cooking Oil	85.0	3.5	3.7	13.3	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶	MAIMANA	Sheep /wheat flour	214.3	4.1	7.1	9.6	4.5	▶	▶	▶	▶	
										NILI	Sheep /wheat flour	100.0	-9.5	-15.5	-8.8	0.0	▶	▶	▶	▶		

Remark ▲ Price increase above normal price fluctuation ▶ Normal Price fluctuation ▼ Price decrease below normal price fluctuation

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 November 2015 and 2Y= Compared to November 2014

Source: WFP/VAM market data from Afghanistan main cities (Kabul, Kandahar, Mazar, Jalalabad, Faizabad, Hirat, Maimana and Nili)  
 Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) – World Food Programme (WFP), Afghanistan