



ព្រឹត្តិបត្រថ្លៃអាហារ និងប្រាក់ឈ្នួលពលកម្មនៅកម្ពុជា

CAMBODIA FOOD PRICE AND WAGE BULLETIN



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HIGHLIGHTS

- **Food purchasing power of households** decreased 2.6% in rural area and increased 2.9% in urban area on a month-on-month basis.
- **Retail price of lowest quality rice** increased 1.5% in rural areas and decreased 0.2% in urban areas month-on-month.
- **Wholesale price of mixed rice** decreased 1.5% month-on-month and 2.1% year-on-year.
- The **Inflation Rate** was 4.9% in April. Food prices increased 0.7% and gasoline prices remained stable month-on-month.
- **FAO Food Price Index** averaged 209.3 points, a month-on-month decrease of 1.6% due to a sharp decline in dairy prices.
- **Thai and Vietnamese Export price of rice:** Thai rice prices decreased 1.6% and Vietnamese rice prices decreased 0.6% month-on-month.

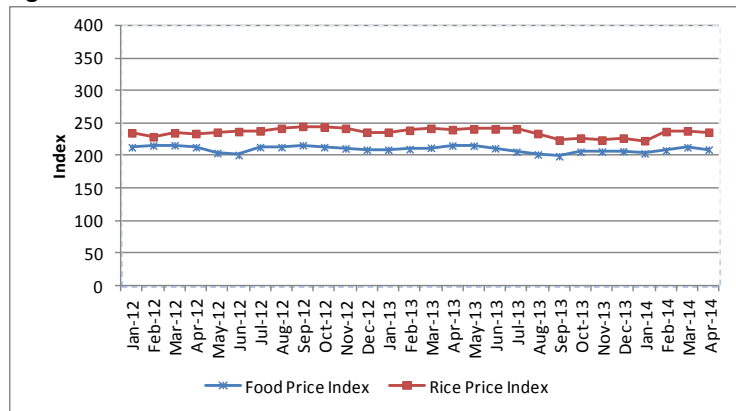
Overview

This Bulletin is a joint publication¹ by the Agricultural Marketing Office (Department of Planning and Statistics) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (AMO MAFF) and the United Nations World Food Programme Cambodia. It monitors the price of food commodities and wage rates of unskilled labor on a monthly basis. It also aims to detect changes and identify trends in the food purchasing power of vulnerable households.

International Food and Rice Prices

The FAO Food Price Index² measures the international price level of a basket of key food commodities. The index averaged 209.3 points in April 2014, a decrease of 1.6% on a month-on-month basis mainly due to a sharp decline in dairy prices. The International Rice Price Index averaged 236 points, a slight decrease of 0.8% on a month-on-month basis.

Figure 1: FAO Food Price Index and Rice Price Index



Source: <http://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/foodpricesindex/en/>

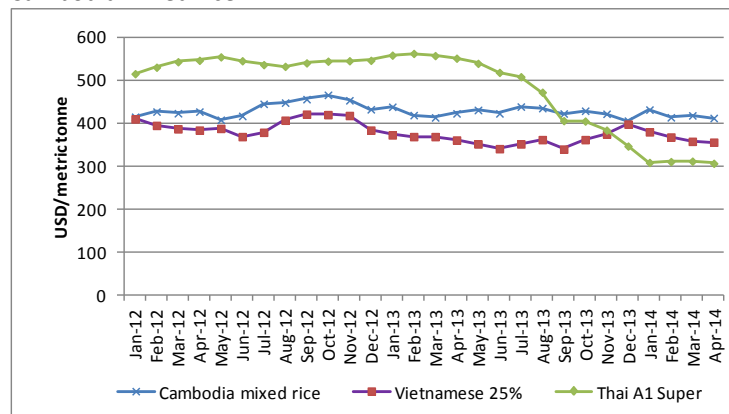
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Regional Rice Wholesale Prices

In April 2014, the f.o.b. prices³ of Thai A1 Super white rice (100% broken) and Vietnamese white rice (25% broken) were 307 USD/mt and 356 USD/mt, respectively (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Export price of Thai and Vietnamese white rice and Cambodia mixed rice⁴



Source: <http://www.fao.org/es/esc/prices/PricesServlet.jsp?lang=en>

¹ This publication has been produced jointly since September 2011.

² The FAO Food Price Index consists of the average of commodity group price indices (i.e. meat, dairy, cereals, oils/fats, and sugar) weighted with the average export shares of each of the groups for 2002-2004.

³ Free on board (f.o.b.) price includes all charges up to the placing of goods on board a ship at the port of departure specified by the buyer.

⁴ Mixed rice is considered a low-quality type of rice. The price in US\$ per metric tonne above was converted from the price in Riel per Kg.

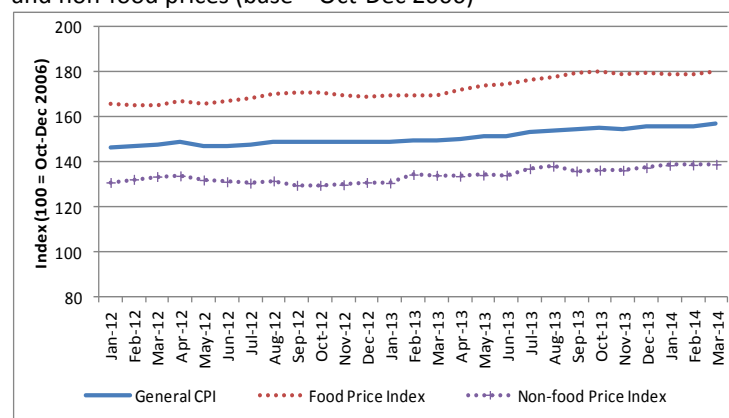
The export price of Thai A1 Super white rice decreased 1.6% month-on-month and 44.3% year-on-year. The decline in the export price of Thai rice is due to mismanagement of the MY2013/14 Main-Crop Rice Paddy Pledging Program. The price of Vietnamese white rice decreased 0.6% month-on-month and 1.4% on a year-on-year basis, respectively. This decline is due to the lowering of the minimum export price for low grade rice (25%-100% broken) by the Vietnam Food Association. This move helps Vietnamese rice exports remain competitive against Thai rice.

The price of Cambodian mixed rice in April was 412.1 USD/mt, a decrease of 1.5% from previous month. However, the price of Cambodia mixed rice was still 34% and 16% higher than that of the Thai and Vietnamese rice, respectively.

Cambodia Consumer Price Index (CPI)

The general Consumer Price Index (CPI)⁵ measures the cost of a consumption basket composed of 259 items. Each item is weighted based on their importance in an average household's expenditure⁶. In April 2014, the general CPI averaged 157.7 points, increased 0.6% month-on-month. The inflation rate, as measured by the year-on-year increase in the CPI, was 4.9%. Non-food prices averaged 139.6 points, increasing by 0.4% month-on-month. Gasoline prices remained stable month-on-month and were 1.0% higher compared to same period last year. The Food Price Index (FPI) measures the cost of the food items in the general CPI's consumption basket. Food items comprise 43.2% of the total consumption basket. In April 2014, the FPI was 181.6, an increase of 0.7% month-on-month and increase of 5.6% year-on-year basis (Figure 3). The increase in FPI was not a concern for vulnerable households as increases in unskilled wage labor rates continue to outpace inflation (see Page 3).

Figure 3: Relative change in general consumer prices, food prices and non-food prices (base = Oct-Dec 2006)

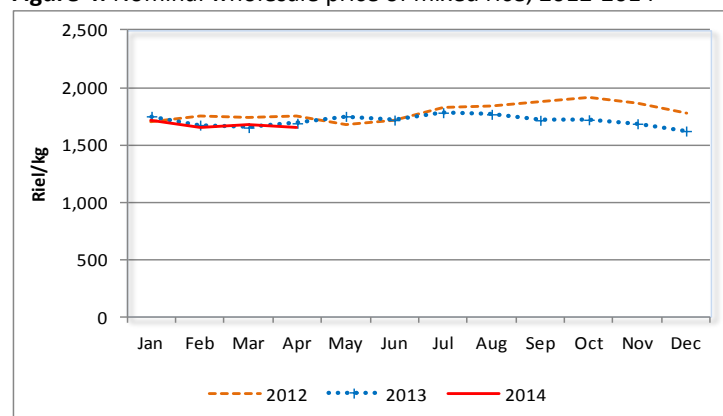


Source: National Institute of Statistics

Local Food Commodity Prices

According to data⁷ from AMO MAFF, the average wholesale price of mixed rice was 1,654.8 riel/kg in April 2014, a month-on-month decrease of 1.5%. In nominal terms, prices decreased by 2.1% from the previous year (Figure 4). In real terms, the wholesale price of mixed rice was 7.0% lower than April 2013.

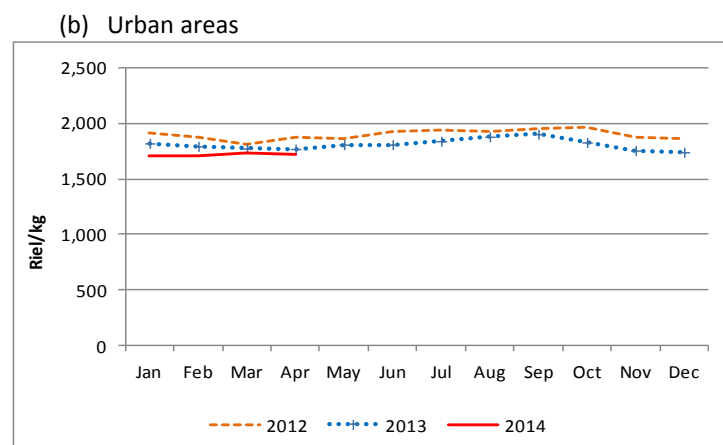
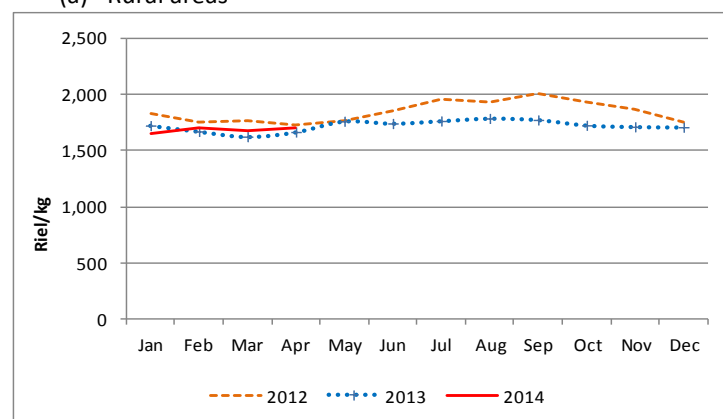
Figure 4: Nominal wholesale price of mixed rice, 2012-2014



Source: AMO MAFF, <http://www.agriculturalmarketinformation.org.kh>

In April 2014, the average retail price of the lowest quality rice⁸ in rural and urban areas was 1,704 riel/kg and 1,723 riel/kg, respectively. The retail price of the lowest quality rice in rural areas increased 1.5% while in urban areas decreased 0.2% month-on-month (Figure 5).

Figure 5 (a)(b): Nominal retail price of lowest quality rice, 2012-14



Source: WFP

In April 2014, nominal retail rice prices in rural areas increased 2.2% and in urban areas decreased 2.6% on a year-on-year basis. In real terms, the retail price of rice in rural and urban areas was 2.7% and 7.5% lower than the same period in the previous year, respectively.

Retail prices of other food commodities (i.e. second quality rice, vegetable oil, smoked fish, fresh fish, pork, and duck eggs) in each of the 10 rural and 11 urban markets are presented in Appendix 2.

⁵ The CPI is collected and reported by the National Institute of Statistics (NIS).

⁶ Relative item expenditure weights are derived from the 2004 Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey and adjusted to October-December 2006 price levels.

⁷ From provincial markets in Kampong Chhnang, Takeo, Siem Reap, Prey Veng, Phnom Penh, Kampot, Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, and Kampong Cham

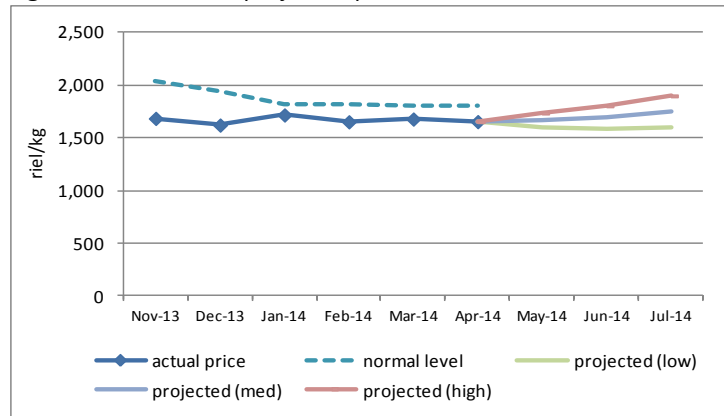
⁸ Mixed rice, IR rice and Banla Pdao rice

Price Monitoring and Forecasting

FAO's price monitoring tool compares recent actual wholesale prices from AMO MAFF with "normal" price levels. The normal price level takes into account historical price levels and adjusts for inflation and seasonal factors. A discrepancy between current actual prices and "normal" prices indicates that current prices are higher or lower than what would be expected. In April 2014, the actual wholesale price of mixed rice was 1,654.8 riel/kg, 8% lower than the expected normal historical price.

The price monitoring tool also projects prices based on the current price, current inflation rate and seasonal factors. The high and low bands are set so that actual prices will fall within the range 80% of the time. Prices for the next three months (May, June and July) were projected to be at 1,668 riel/kg, 1,695 riel/kg and 1,749 riel/kg respectively (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Normal and projected prices of wholesale rice



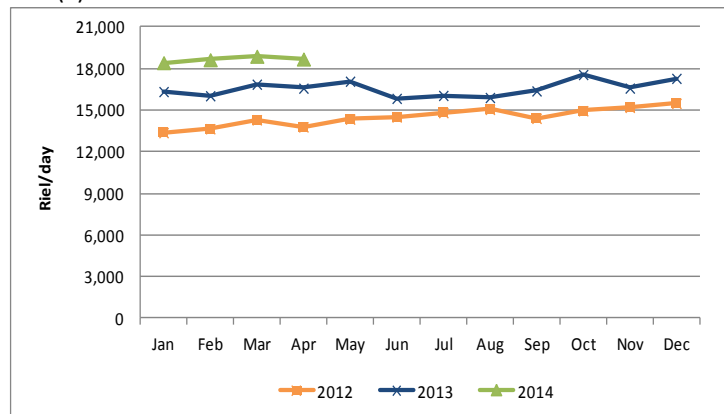
Source: AMO, WFP, FAO

Unskilled Wage

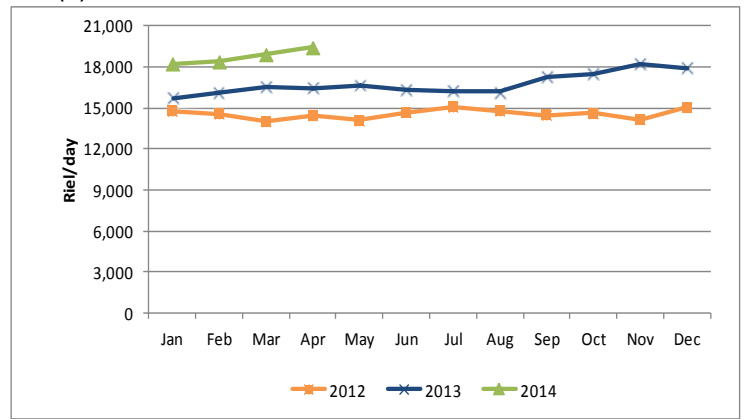
Daily wages of unskilled workers engaged in rice and non-rice farming and construction work are monitored by WFP on a monthly basis. In April 2014, the average wage of unskilled labor was 18,700 riel/day in rural areas and 19,438 riel/day in urban areas. The wage rate in rural area decreased 1.1% while the wage rate in urban area increased 2.7% on a month-on-month basis, (Figure 7). In urban areas, the increase in unskilled wages was due to on-going construction works which positively affects demand for unskilled labor in the construction sector.

Figure 7(a)(b): Daily wage of unskilled labor

(a) Rural areas



(b) Urban areas



Source: WFP

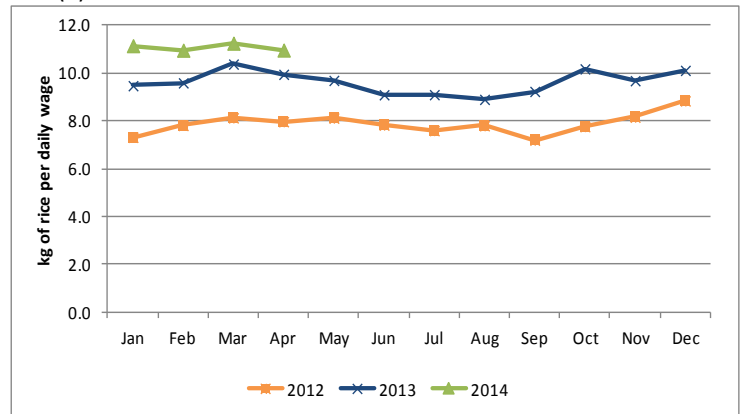
Terms of Trade

Terms of trade (ToT) is used to assess household purchasing power by taking the ratio of two different components. In this bulletin, the ToT takes the ratio of the daily wage rates of unskilled laborers and the retail price of lowest quality rice in the market. This gives an indication of the amount of rice that an unskilled wage laborer can purchase with a daily wage.

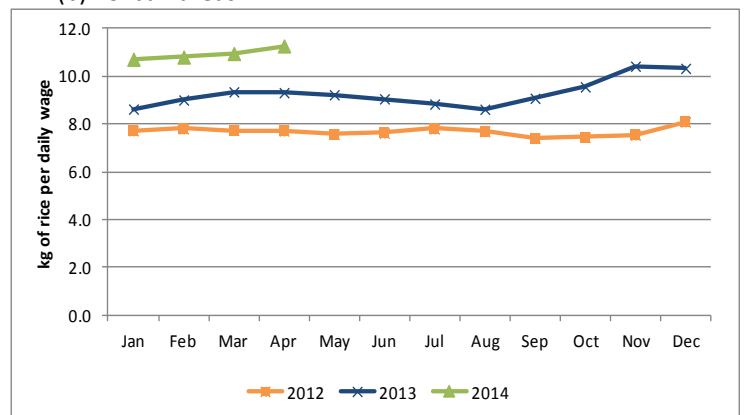
In April 2014, the ToT was 11.0 kg/day and 11.3 kg/day in rural and urban areas, respectively. The ToT in rural areas decreased 2.6% while the ToT in urban areas increased 2.9% on a month-on-month basis. The decrease in ToT in rural areas is due to an increase in retail prices of lowest quality rice and slight decreases in unskilled wage labor rates. In urban areas, upward trends in unskilled wage labor rates and decreases in rice prices caused purchasing power of vulnerable households to improve (Figure 8).

Figure 8(a)(b): Terms of Trade of unskilled labor and rice

(a) Rural areas

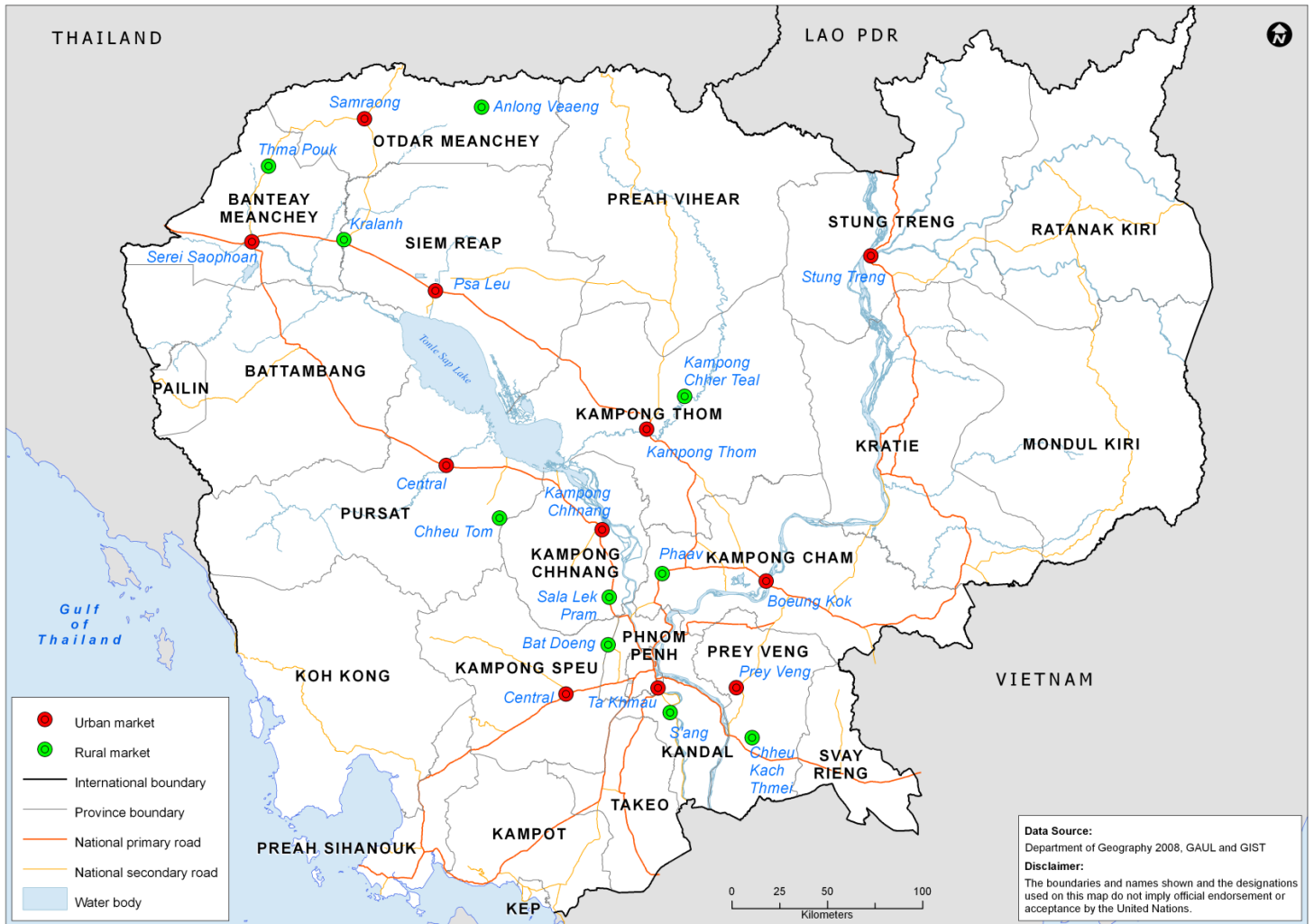


(b) Urban areas



Source: WFP

Appendix 1: Location of sentinel market sites in urban and rural areas in Cambodia



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Appendix 2(a)(b): Retail price of food commodities by market

(a) Rural markets

Food Item	Province	Market	price (Riel/kg)	price change (%)			direction of change		
				1 month	3 months	1 year	1 month	3 months	1 year
Second quality rice	Banteay Meanchey	Thma Puok	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Siem Reap	Kralanh	2,467	0.0	0.0	-	→	→	-
	Oddar Meanchey	Anlong Veng	2,200	0.0	-4.3	-	→	→	-
	Kampong Cham	Pha'av	1,700	0.0	8.5	2.0	→	→	→
	Kampong Thom	Kampong Chheuteal	1,733	2.0	-	0.0	→	-	→
	Prey Veng	Chheu Kach Thmei	2,200	-	-	57.1	-	-	↑
	Kampong Chnang	Sala Lek Pram	1,833	0.0	10.0	0.0	→	→	→
	Kampong Speu	Bat Doeng	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Pursat	Chheu Tom	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Stung Treng	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	S'ang	1,900	5.6	-7.3	-5.0	↑	→	→	
Lowest quality rice	Banteay Meanchey	Thma Puok	2,000	11.1	0.0	-1.6	↑	→	→
	Siem Reap	Kralanh	1,767	0.0	-1.9	3.9	→	→	→
	Oddar Meanchey	Anlong Veng	1,667	2.0	4.2	-	→	→	-
	Kampong Cham	Pha'av	1,450	3.6	-6.5	0.0	→	→	→
	Kampong Thom	Kampong Chheuteal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Prey Veng	Chheu Kach Thmei	1,433	-4.4	2.4	-4.4	→	→	→
	Kampong Chnang	Sala Lek Pram	1,800	1.9	14.9	13.7	→	↑	→
	Kampong Speu	Bat Doeng	1,850	-7.5	-	-	↓	-	-
	Pursat	Chheu Tom	1,633	0.0	8.9	-9.3	→	→	→
	Stung Treng	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	S'ang	1,733	8.3	-3.7	8.3	↑	→	→	
Vegetable oil	Banteay Meanchey	Thma Puok	6,226	-2.9	-5.6	-5.6	→	→	→
	Siem Reap	Kralanh	5,500	0.0	3.1	-6.2	→	→	→
	Oddar Meanchey	Anlong Veng	6,593	2.9	9.1	-	→	→	-
	Kampong Cham	Pha'av	5,367	5.9	7.3	19.3	↑	→	↑
	Kampong Thom	Kampong Chheuteal	5,333	-3.0	-5.9	6.7	→	→	→
	Prey Veng	Chheu Kach Thmei	5,067	1.3	1.3	5.6	→	→	→
	Kampong Chnang	Sala Lek Pram	5,500	0.0	-1.8	-0.6	→	→	→
	Kampong Speu	Bat Doeng	5,000	-2.0	0.0	2.7	→	→	→
	Pursat	Chheu Tom	5,533	0.0	3.1	10.7	→	→	→
	Stung Treng	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	S'ang	5,200	-1.6	0.0	8.3	→	→	→	
Smoked fish	Banteay Meanchey	Thma Puok	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Siem Reap	Kralanh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Oddar Meanchey	Anlong Veng	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Kampong Cham	Pha'av	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Kampong Thom	Kampong Chheuteal	17,600	-2.2	10.0	-13.4	→	→	→
	Prey Veng	Chheu Kach Thmei	17,250	-	-8.2	-	-	→	-
	Kampong Chnang	Sala Lek Pram	13,500	3.8	-20.6	-	→	↓	-
	Kampong Speu	Bat Doeng	23,300	-7.9	42.7	11.0	↓	↑	→
	Pursat	Chheu Tom	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Stung Treng	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	S'ang	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Food Item	Province	Market	price (Riel/kg)	price change (%)			direction of change		
				1 month	3 months	1 year	1 month	3 months	1 year
Fresh fish	Banteay Meanchey	Thma Puok	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Siem Reap	Kralanh	5,167	0.0	0.0	10.7	→	→	→
	Oddar Meanchey	Anlong Veng	5,000	0.0	11.1	-	→	↑	-
	Kampong Cham	Pha'av	6,500	8.3	8.3	30.0	↑	→	↑
	Kampong Thom	Kampong Chheuteal	7,250	-9.4	-	24.3	↓	-	↑
	Prey Veng	Chheu Kach Thmei	6,000	-	-	33.3	-	-	↑
	Kampong Chnang	Sala Lek Pram	6,000	-7.7	2.9	-	↓	→	-
	Kampong Speu	Bat Doeng	6,000	0.0	0.0	9.1	→	→	→
	Pursat	Chheu Tom	6,000	0.0	0.0	0.0	→	→	→
	Stung Treng	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	S'ang	6,250	4.2	-	-	→	-	-	
Pork with fat	Banteay Meanchey	Thma Puok	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Siem Reap	Kralanh	13,000	0.0	8.3	8.3	→	→	→
	Oddar Meanchey	Anlong Veng	13,000	5.4	5.4	-	↑	→	-
	Kampong Cham	Pha'av	14,000	0.0	0.0	7.7	→	→	→
	Kampong Thom	Kampong Chheuteal	15,000	7.1	12.5	25.0	↑	↑	↑
	Prey Veng	Chheu Kach Thmei	14,000	0.0	7.7	10.5	→	→	→
	Kampong Chnang	Sala Lek Pram	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Kampong Speu	Bat Doeng	15,667	9.3	11.9	14.6	↑	↑	→
	Pursat	Chheu Tom	18,000	20.0	20.0	28.6	↑	↑	↑
	Stung Treng	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	S'ang	16,667	6.4	-2.0	33.3	↑	→	↑	
Duck egg	Banteay Meanchey	Thma Puok	600	0.0	-14.3	-14.3	→	↓	→
	Siem Reap	Kralanh	567	-8.1	-8.1	-6.6	↓	→	→
	Oddar Meanchey	Anlong Veng	567	0.0	-8.1	-	→	→	-
	Kampong Cham	Pha'av	500	-3.2	0.0	-16.7	→	→	↓
	Kampong Thom	Kampong Chheuteal	500	0.0	-6.3	-	→	→	-
	Prey Veng	Chheu Kach Thmei	457	-8.7	-4.9	-18.5	↓	→	↓
	Kampong Chnang	Sala Lek Pram	500	0.0	-1.3	-16.7	→	→	↓
	Kampong Speu	Bat Doeng	500	-	-9.1	-18.9	-	→	↓
	Pursat	Chheu Tom	477	-2.7	-1.4	-4.7	→	→	→
	Stung Treng	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	S'ang	453	-9.3	-17.6	-24.4	↓	↓	↓	

↑ Price increase above normal fluctuation
 → Normal price fluctuation
 ↓ Price decrease below normal fluctuation
 - Commodity not available in reporting month

Price fluctuation is considered normal if change within:
 5% for month, 10% for 3 months, 15% for 1 year

(b) Urban markets

Food Item	Province	Market	price (Riel/kg)	price change (%)			direction of change		
				1 month	3 months	1 year	1 month	3 months	1 year
Second quality rice	Banteay Meanchey	Serei Saophoan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Siem Reap	Psa Leu	2,267	-1.4	-1.4	11.5	→	→	→
	Oddar Meanchey	Samraong	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Kampong Cham	Boeung Kok	2,133	-0.8	12.3	-0.8	→	↑	→
	Kampong Thom	Central	1,700	-2.9	-3.8	-2.9	→	→	→
	Prey Veng	Central	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Kampong Chnang	Central	1,867	3.7	5.7	-	→	→	-
	Kampong Speu	Central	1,800	0.0	3.8	-27.0	→	→	↓
	Pursat	Central	1,933	-1.7	-3.3	-21.6	→	→	↓
	Stung Treng	Stung Treng	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	Ta Khmao	2,067	3.3	-	-6.1	→	-	→	
Lowest quality rice	Banteay Meanchey	Serei Saophoan	2,000	0.0	0.0	2.6	→	→	→
	Siem Reap	Psa Leu	1,633	-7.5	2.1	-2.0	↓	→	→
	Oddar Meanchey	Samraong	1,867	-6.7	-3.4	-	↓	→	-
	Kampong Cham	Boeung Kok	1,400	0.0	-	-1.8	→	-	→
	Kampong Thom	Central	1,500	-3.2	-6.3	-	→	→	-
	Prey Veng	Central	1,700	0.0	6.3	-3.8	→	→	→
	Kampong Chnang	Central	1,700	4.1	4.1	4.1	→	→	→
	Kampong Speu	Central	2,000	17.6	25.0	11.1	↑	↑	→
	Pursat	Central	1,600	-4.0	-3.0	-17.9	→	→	↓
	Stung Treng	Stung Treng	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	Ta Khmao	1,833	-0.9	-	-6.8	→	-	→	
Vegetable oil	Banteay Meanchey	Serei Saophoan	6,043	0.0	0.7	-5.7	→	→	→
	Siem Reap	Psa Leu	5,756	-1.8	6.8	16.7	→	→	↑
	Oddar Meanchey	Samraong	6,043	0.0	0.0	-	→	→	-
	Kampong Cham	Boeung Kok	5,000	-3.2	-7.4	0.0	→	→	→
	Kampong Thom	Central	5,133	-0.6	-6.9	4.1	→	→	→
	Prey Veng	Central	5,067	-1.9	-10.6	-17.8	→	↓	↓
	Kampong Chnang	Central	5,067	1.3	-2.6	8.6	→	→	→
	Kampong Speu	Central	5,000	-3.2	-2.0	2.7	→	→	→
	Pursat	Central	5,367	0.3	-5.3	-14.4	→	→	→
	Stung Treng	Stung Treng	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	Ta Khmao	5,300	-6.2	-3.0	6.0	↓	→	→	
Smoked fish	Banteay Meanchey	Serei Saophoan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Siem Reap	Psa Leu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Oddar Meanchey	Samraong	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Kampong Cham	Boeung Kok	25,767	3.3	23.9	28.8	→	↑	↑
	Kampong Thom	Central	21,550	2.6	-13.5	5.1	→	↓	→
	Prey Veng	Central	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Kampong Chnang	Central	18,000	-40.0	5.9	-	↓	→	-
	Kampong Speu	Central	26,667	11.1	14.0	33.3	↑	↑	↑
	Pursat	Central	18,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Stung Treng	Stung Treng	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	Ta Khmao	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Food Item	Province	Market	price (Riel/kg)	price change (%)			direction of change		
				1 month	3 months	1 year	1 month	3 months	1 year
Fresh fish	Banteay Meanchey	Serei Saophoan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Siem Reap	Psa Leu	5,000	-14.3	0.0	-	↓	→	-
	Oddar Meanchey	Samraong	5,000	0.0	-4.8	-	→	→	-
	Kampong Cham	Boeung Kok	6,000	-10.0	-25.0	11.1	↓	↓	→
	Kampong Thom	Central	6,750	3.8	-	13.8	→	-	→
	Prey Veng	Central	5,500	10.0	-4.3	10.0	↑	→	→
	Kampong Chnang	Central	6,167	-9.8	-5.1	19.4	↓	→	↑
	Kampong Speu	Central	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Pursat	Central	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Stung Treng	Stung Treng	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	Ta Khmao	7,000	-	-6.7	20.0	-	→	↑	
Pork with fat	Banteay Meanchey	Serei Saophoan	17,667	12.8	17.8	17.8	↑	↑	↑
	Siem Reap	Psa Leu	15,000	8.4	15.4	21.6	↑	↑	↑
	Oddar Meanchey	Samraong	15,000	0.0	0.0	-	→	→	-
	Kampong Cham	Boeung Kok	17,833	5.9	4.9	23.0	↑	→	↑
	Kampong Thom	Central	15,000	7.1	15.4	25.0	↑	↑	↑
	Prey Veng	Central	18,000	14.9	20.0	38.5	↑	↑	↑
	Kampong Chnang	Central	17,000	6.3	10.9	18.6	↑	↑	↑
	Kampong Speu	Central	16,000	6.7	11.6	20.0	↑	↑	↑
	Pursat	Central	16,000	0.0	14.3	15.7	→	↑	↑
	Stung Treng	Stung Treng	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	Ta Khmao	18,000	5.9	1.9	14.9	↑	→	→	
Duck egg	Banteay Meanchey	Serei Saophoan	525	1.6	-1.6	-10.0	→	→	→
	Siem Reap	Psa Leu	543	1.2	0.0	-9.4	→	→	→
	Oddar Meanchey	Samraong	600	5.9	0.0	-	↑	→	-
	Kampong Cham	Boeung Kok	477	-1.4	-7.7	-19.2	→	→	↓
	Kampong Thom	Central	500	-	-9.1	-	-	→	-
	Prey Veng	Central	433	-	-10.3	-25.3	-	↓	↓
	Kampong Chnang	Central	467	-1.4	-6.7	-21.3	→	→	↓
	Kampong Speu	Central	533	6.7	-3.0	-12.1	↑	→	→
	Pursat	Central	467	1.4	-3.4	-20.5	→	→	↓
	Stung Treng	Stung Treng	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kandal	Ta Khmao	500	-1.3	-6.3	-16.7	→	→	↓	

↑ Price increase above normal fluctuation
 → Normal price fluctuation
 ↓ Price decrease below normal fluctuation
 - Commodity not available in reporting month

Price fluctuation is considered normal if change within:
 5% for month, 10% for 3 months, 15% for 1 year