

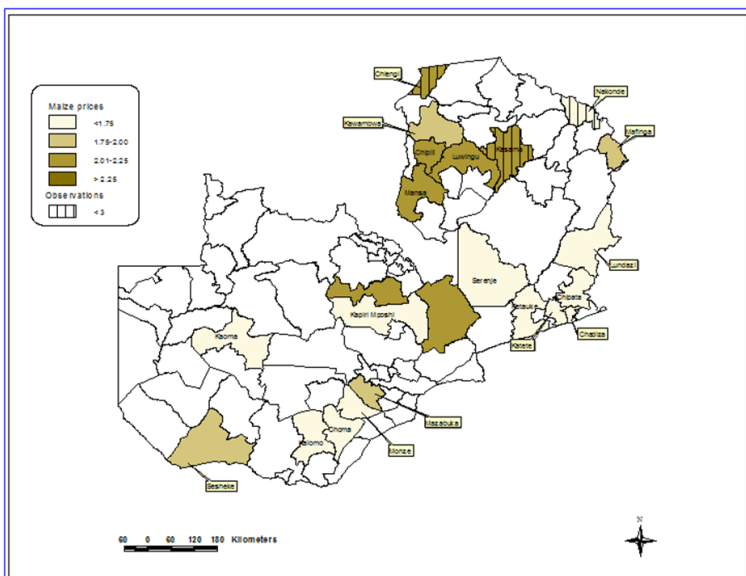


Maize prices continue to fall in most surveyed districts

Maize price trends varied across monitored districts in October (**Figures 1a and 1b**). Prices fell by an average 12 percent in districts of Central, Western, Eastern; Northern; and Southern Provinces. However, some districts saw an average 7 percent price rise during the same period in Muchinga, Southern, Copperbelt, Luapula, Central and Eastern Province. The mixed price trends are attributed to uncertainties in marketing arrangements, especially after the enforcement of a ban on exporting maize. The Food Reserve Agency is the main buyer as it seeks to meet the country’s strategic reserve requirements.

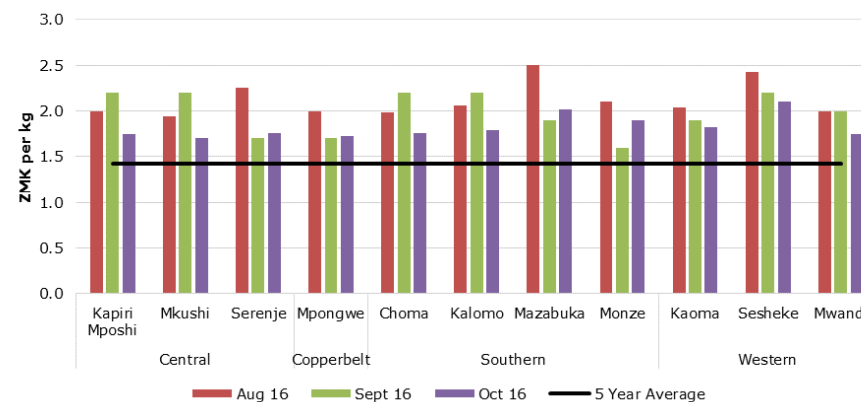
Nationally, the current average price (ZMK1.83/kg) is still higher than the national five-year average (October 2010 – October 2015), which is ZMK1.42/kg (source: [FAO GIEWS](#)).

Map 2: Maize prices by district (ZMK/kg)



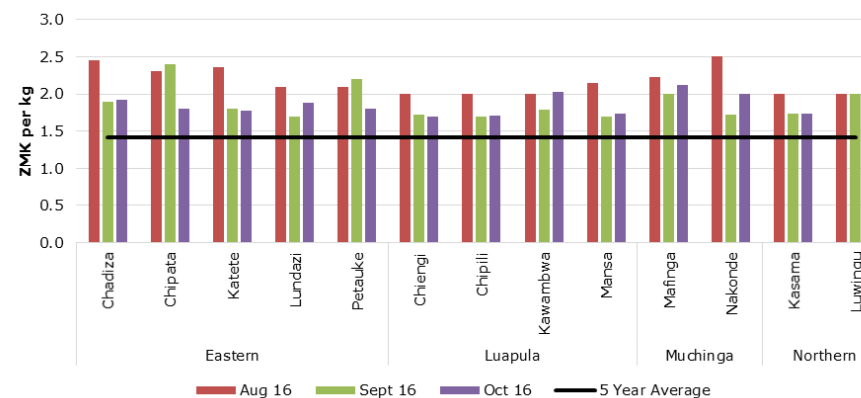
Source: mVAM October 2016

Fig. 1a: Maize prices (ZMK/kg) for monitored districts in Central, Copperbelt, Southern and Western provinces



Source: mVAM October 2016

Fig. 1b: Maize prices (ZMK/kg) for monitored districts in Eastern, Luapula, Muchinga and Northern provinces



Source: mVAM October 2016



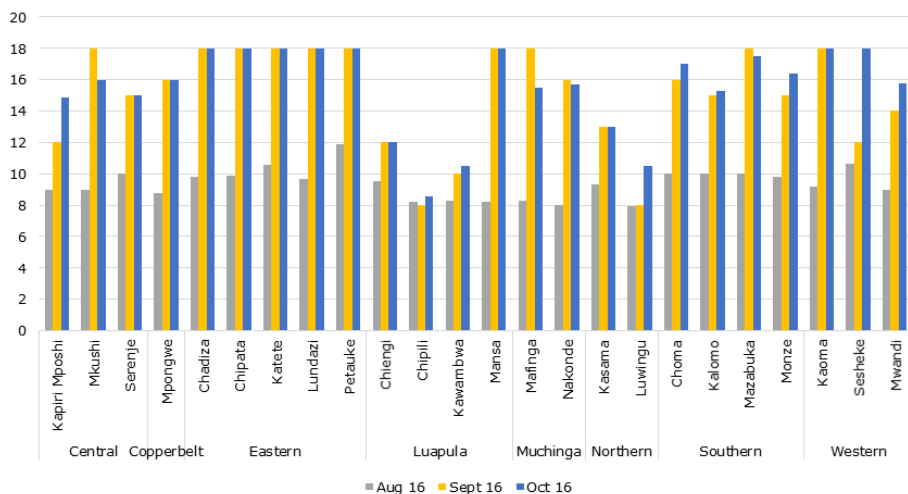
Bean and groundnut prices stable in most monitored districts

The price of beans remained stable between September and October for all districts in Eastern Province; Chiengi and Mansa in Luapula Province; and Kaoma in Western Province. Price increases were observed in nine (9) districts with the highest having been in Luwingu in Northern Province (32 percent) and Sesheke in Western Province (50 percent).

By contrast, groundnuts generally became cheaper between September and October, although they are still more expensive than in July and August. This reduction may be the result of an increased supply from the Eastern province, possibly from the harvest in July/August. Prices rose in just a handful of monitored districts, including Kapiri Mposhi (5 percent) and Mkushi (11 percent) in Central Province; Kawambwa (5 percent) in Luapula Province; Luwingu (7 percent) in Northern Province; and Monze (28 percent) in Southern Province (Figure 3).

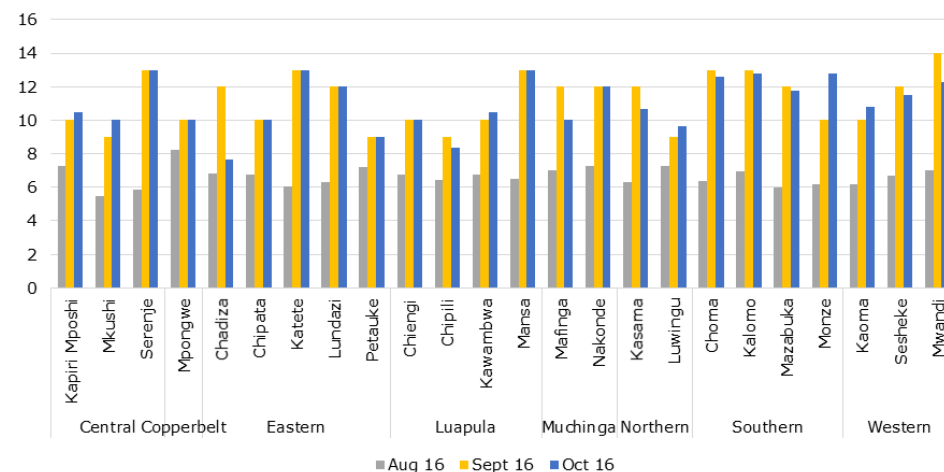
Fluctuations in the prices of beans and groundnuts are attributed to differences in demand and supply within the monitored districts. Reduced demand has led to stable prices in some districts, whereas increased demand has pushed prices up in others. Prices in September and October were higher than in July and August because of increased demand mainly from Congo and Tanzania.

Fig.2: Bean prices by district (ZMK/kg)



Source: mVAM October 2016

Fig. 3: Groundnut prices by district (ZMK/kg)



Source: mVAM October 2016



Traders facing high transportation costs

Limited access to markets, a lack of improved agricultural inputs and high transportation costs remain the main constraints cited by traders. They also mentioned limited access to finance and lower crop production caused by inadequate rainfall in the 2015/16 rainy season. Some traders continue to talk about limited crop diversification with too much focus on maize, as well as poor road infrastructure. The maize export ban is preventing traders from selling maize to neighbouring countries such as Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe where prices are still higher. This can be seen from the reduced volumes of maize crossing the borders.

Fig. 4: Word cloud of open-ended responses



Source: mVAM October 2016

Table 1: Food Prices Across Surveyed Districts (ZMK/kg)

Districts	Beans			Maize			Groundnuts		
	Current	September	% Change	Current	September	% Change	Current	September	% Change
Kaoma	18.00	18.00	0.00	1.82	1.90	-4.42	10.80	12.00	-10.0
Sesheke	18.00	12.00	50.00	2.10	2.20	-4.55	11.50	14.00	-17.9
Kapiri Mposhi	14.88	12.00	23.96	1.75	2.20	-20.45	10.50	10.00	5.0
Mkushi	16.00	18.00	-11.11	1.70	2.20	-22.73	10.00	9.00	11.1
Serenje	15.00	15.00	0.00	1.76	1.70	3.36	13.00	13.00	0.0
Chadiza	18.00	18.00	0.00	1.92	1.90	1.05	7.68	12.00	-36.0
Chipata	18.00	18.00	0.00	1.80	2.40	-25.00	10.00	10.00	0.0
Katete	18.00	18.00	0.00	1.78	1.80	-1.11	13.00	13.00	0.0
Lundazi	18.00	18.00	0.00	1.88	1.70	10.82	12.00	12.00	0.0
Petauke	18.00	18.00	0.00	1.81	2.20	-17.82	9.00	9.00	0.0
Chiengi	12.00	12.00	0.00	1.70	1.72	-1.16	10.00	10.00	0.0
Chipili	8.56	8.00	6.94	1.71	1.70	0.65	8.33	9.00	-7.4
Kawambwa	10.50	10.00	5.00	2.03	1.76	15.34	10.50	10.00	5.0
Mansa	18.00	18.00	0.00	1.73	1.70	1.47	13.00	13.00	0.0
Kasama	13.00	13.00	0.00	1.73	1.74	-0.38	10.67	12.00	-11.1
Luwingu	10.53	8.00	31.58	1.74	2.00	-13.16	9.63	9.00	7.0
Choma	17.00	16.00	6.25	1.76	2.20	-19.89	12.63	13.00	-2.9
Kalomo	15.30	15.00	2.00	1.79	2.20	-18.64	12.80	13.00	-1.5
Mazabuka	17.50	18.00	-2.78	2.02	1.90	6.05	11.75	12.00	-2.1
Monze	16.40	15.00	9.33	1.90	1.60	18.75	12.80	10.00	28.0
Mpongwe	16.00	16.00	0.00	1.73	1.70	1.47	10.00	10.00	0.0
Mafinga	15.50	18.00	-13.89	2.13	2.00	6.25	10.00	12.00	-16.7
Nakonde	15.67	16.00	-2.08	2.00	1.72	16.28	12.00	12.00	0.0
Mwandi	15.75	14.00	12.50	1.75	2.00	-12.50	12.25	14.00	-12.5

Source: mVAM October 2016



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mVAM Resources:

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