

IFPRI Monthly Maize Market Report

November 2016

Maize Market Activity - Highlights

- During the month of November, average maize retail prices increased slightly from **MK224** to **MK225** per kg.
- Monitors reported the widest range of maize prices in Mchinji and Nsanje, and lowest in Mitundu and Lunzu.
- All main ADMARC depots were open during the entire month.

In November, average retail prices remain steady.

The maize retail price per kg averaged MK225/kg on November 25th, a drop of 1% from the previous week's estimate of MK228/kg. The most significant increases were in Karonga and Mzimba, with 8% and 4% increases, respectively. Overall, during the month of November, average prices increased slightly from K224/kg to K225/kg.

Mchinji and Nsanje reported widest range of prices . . .

Figure 1 shows the range (maximum-minimum) of retail maize prices on November 25th sorted by markets and regions. Price differences were highest in Mchinji and Nsanje. All monitors in Mitundu and Lunzu reported the same price.

And Mzimba has the lowest prices while Lunzu has the highest.

Figure 2 show the distribution of maize prices in each market during November. The lower and upper lines indicate the minimum and maximum prices during the month, while the box shows the first quartile, median and third quartile of the price distribution. The lowest minimum price was reported in Mzimba while the highest maximum price was reported in Lunzu.

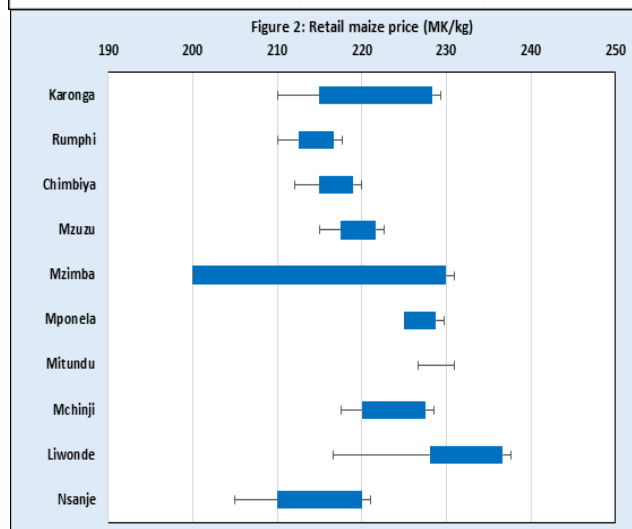
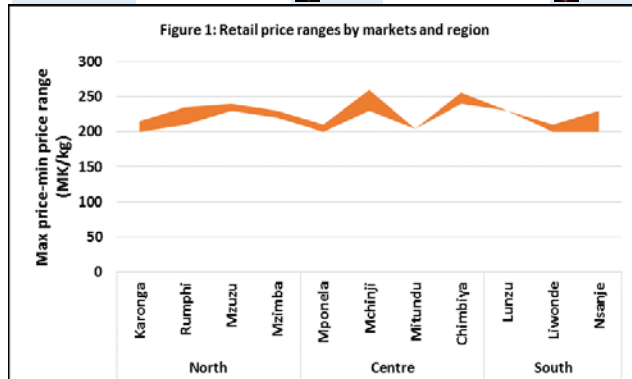
ADMARC continues to sell maize only, no buying.

Since opening its markets across the country on 21st October, the main ADMARC depots in these markets have been reported to be selling maize only. No buying activity has been recorded to date. Some ADMARC sub-depots in Chimbiya and Karonga have not opened yet. ADMARC selling price remains unchanged at MK250 per kg in all markets.

How data was collected

IFPRI has been monitoring maize prices per kilogram (kg) in selected districts and markets since November 1, 2016. The monitoring covers six days in a week excluding Sunday. There are at least three monitors reporting in each of the markets. Data is collected by means of automated short message service (SMS) with follow-ups made via telephone where necessary. Price monitoring started with eight markets on 1st November, followed by Mzuzu and Rumphu on November 22nd. Monitoring at Nkhamenya, Mwanza, Chikwawa and Chitakale will begin in December.

Market	4-Nov	11-Nov	change	18-Nov	25-Nov	change
Karonga	217	217	0%	213	230	8%
Rumphu			N/A		213	N/A
Mzuzu			N/A		215	N/A
Mzimba	200	200	0%	225	235	4%
Mponela			N/A		225	N/A
Chimbiya	219	215	-2%	220	212	-4%
Mchinji	218	228	5%	228	220	-3%
Mitundu	235	230	-2%	230	230	0%
Lunzu	243	245	1%	245	240	-2%
Liwonde	237	227	-4%	245	237	-3%
Nsanje	217	210	-3%	220	217	-2%
All markets	224	224	0%	228	225	-1%



Source: Maize price monitoring survey, IFPRI Malawi