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# Libya Market Monitor WFP VAM BULLETIN #4

December 2022


# Libya Market Monitor- December 2022

Overview



## MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET (MEB)

December 2022

 **Food**  
845 LYD ▲ + 2 % since November 2022  
(+13.6 LYD)

 **Non-Food**  
84.8 LYD ▼ -2 % since November 2022 (-  
1.5 LYD)

 **Food and Non-Food**  
954.9 LYD ▲ +2 % since November 2022  
(+17.5 LYD)

*The Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) represents the minimum culturally adjusted group of items required to support a five-person Libyan household (HH) for one month. The cost of the MEB is used as a proxy for the financial burden facing households.*

## INFLATION AND MARKET PRICES OVERVIEW

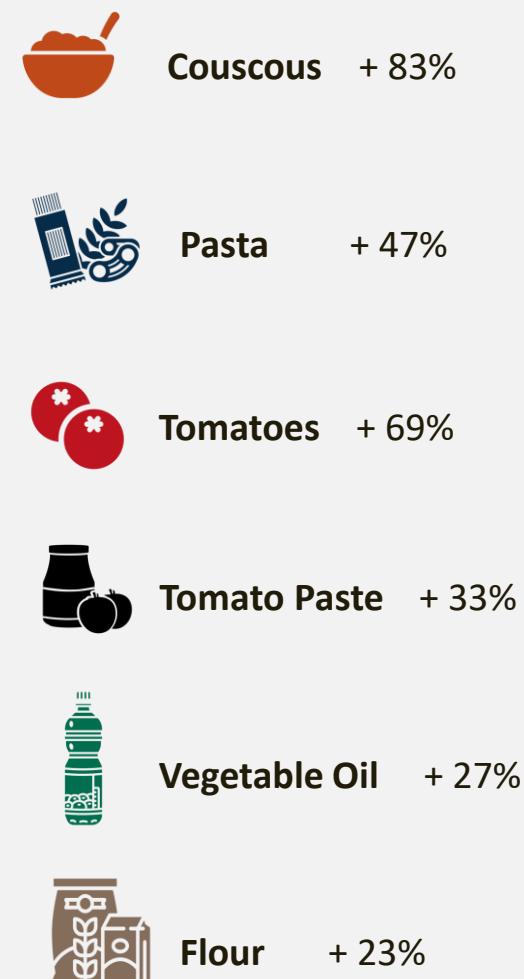
- According to Libyan Bureau of Statistics report, the monthly average consumer price inflation has increased by **+0.1%** In December 2022 compared to November 2022. This rise was found to be attributed to the main group of food and beverages, which accounts for **38.8%** of the weight of the general index.
- The annual inflation rate has increased by **4.6%** in 2022 compared to 2021 which accounts for an increase in all commodity groups including food groups which recoded a **+4.4%** annual inflation rate.
- The cost of food MEB has increased by **+1.6%** in December 2022 compared to November 2022, and has recorded an annual increase of **+19%** since December 2021, and **+22%** increase since January 2022 (Pre- Ukrainian Conflict).
- The price of cereal food groups such as Flour has increased by **(+23%)**, Bread **(+34%)**, Couscous **(+83%)**, Pasta **(+47%)**, while the price of Vegetable Oil has increased by **(+27%)** between January and December 2022 (Pre- Ukrainian Conflict).



# COMMODITY PRICE VARIATION

Food Basket Components	Price (LYD)	Price Change %		
	December 2022	% Since November 2022 (Monthly Change)	% Since January 2022 (Pre-Ukrainian Conflict)	% Since December 2021 (Annual Change)
Rice (1kg)	4.8	1%	-8%	-24%
Pasta (500g)	2.9	-2%	47%	56%
Couscous (1kg)	6.8	2%	83%	86%
Beans (400g)	1.0	-64%	-60%	-60%
Chicken (1kg)	12.5	0%	28%	11%
Tuna (200g)	6.0	-1%	22%	19%
Eggs (30 eggs)	14.3	6%	0%	12%
Milk (1L)	4.5	0%	6%	3%
Tomatoes (1kg)	3.4	35%	69%	69%
Potatoes (1kg)	3.0	-14%	20%	20%
Onions (1kg)	3.0	9%	20%	50%
Peppers (1kg)	5.0	8%	5%	25%
Tomato paste (400g)	4.0	1%	33%	33%
Black tea (250g)	7.0	5%	8%	4%
Vegetable oil (1L)	11.5	-1%	27%	25%
Flour (1kg)	3.6	2%	23%	31%
Sugar (1kg)	4.0	0%	3%	7%
Salt (1kg)	1.0	-11%	0%	0%
Food Basket (MEB)	845.1	2%	22%	19%

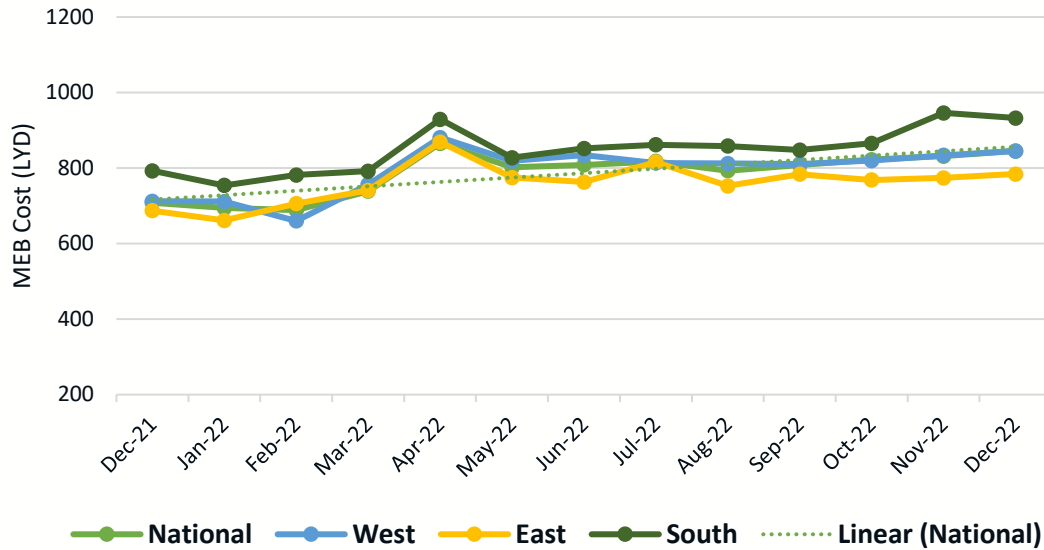
## Items with the highest price variation since the Ukraine-Crisis (Baseline Jan 2022)





# MINIMUM EXPENDITURE BASKET

Cost of Food Portion of MEB Over The Past 12 Months

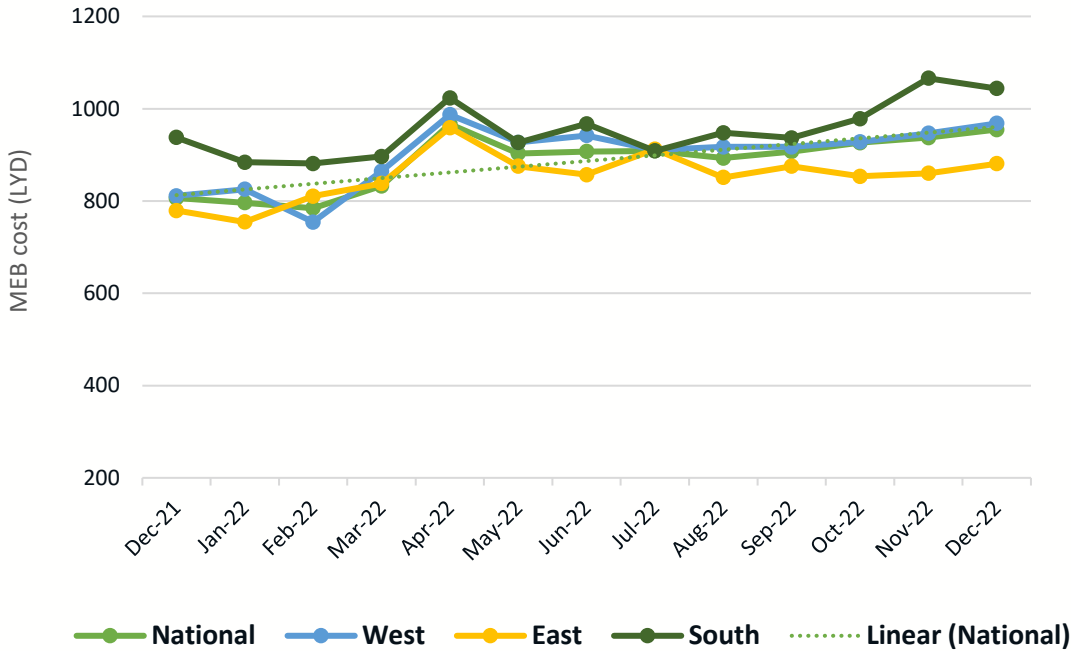


Source: REACH Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI)

Region	Food MEB Price (December 2022)	% Change From Nov 22	% Change from Jan 22 (Pre-Ukrainian Conflict)
West	844.9	1%↑	19%↑
East	784.0	1%↑	19%↑
South	932.5	-1%↓	24%↑
National	845.1	2%↑	22%↑

JMMI data shows that the trend of the national average cost of food basket continues to move in a steep direction with +19% annual increase since December 2021 and +2% increase since the last reporting period (November 2022) and +22% increase since the beginning of the Ukrainian conflict (January 2022). The south region continues to record the highest price levels throughout the year and more recently in December 2022 (932.5 LYD, +10% higher than the national average), and has increased by +24% since the beginning of the Ukraine conflict, the trend shows a spike in food MEB cost in the south between November and December which is the highest to record since the spike in April 2022 that was due to stockpiling in Ramadan. This is similarly the case in the West which recorded the second highest price levels (844.9) in December 2022, and an increase of 19% since the conflict. The east region recorded the least cost (784 LYD) in December 2022, however it is continuing to increase on monthly basis (+1% increase since November 2022 and +19% since January 2022).

Cost of Complete MEB Over The Past 12 Months



Region	Complete MEB Price (December 2022)	% Change From Nov 22	% Change from Jan 22 (Pre-Ukrainian Conflict)
West	968.4	2%↑	17%↑
East	880.9	2%↑	17%↑
South	1044.0	-2%↓	18%↑
National	954.9	2%↑	20%↑

The complete Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) is composed of food and non-food items including hygiene items and fuel. The national cost of complete MEB was 954.9 LYD in December 2022 which is +2% higher since the last reporting period (November 2022), +18% higher than the previous year (December 2021), and +20% higher since the beginning of the Ukraine conflict. Similar to the food portion of the MEB, the southern region also recorded the highest price levels for food and non-food items (1044LYD, +9% higher than the national average), and +18% increase since the Ukrainian conflict. The west region recorded the second highest price levels (968.4 LYD), +2% increase since November 2022 and +17% increase since January 2022. The east region recorded the lowest cost (880.9 LYD) in December 2022, however, the prices are continuing to increase on monthly basis +2% increase since November 2022 and +17% increase since January 2022.





# MONITROING OF CHANGE IN FOOD PRICES

Table1: Commodity price change between November/ December 2022 Per region

Region	Flour (1KG)	Couscous (1KG)	Lamb Meat (1KG)	Pasta (1KG)	Vegetable Oil(1L)	Canned Tuna(200g)	Milk (1L)	Eggs (30 eggs)
West	2%	0%	2%	-3%	1%	-4%	-4%	-3%
East	2%	4%	0%	-8%	6%	0%	0%	7%
South	6%	-7%	0%	0%	-8%	0%	0%	6%
National	2%	2%	1%	-2%	-1%	-1%	0%	6%

Table2: Commodity price change between January/December 2022 Per region (Pre- Pre-Ukrainian Conflict)

Region	Flour (1KG)	Couscous (1KG)	Lamb Meat (1KG)	Pasta (1KG)	Vegetable Oil(1L)	Canned Tuna(200g)	Milk (1L)	Eggs (30 eggs)
West	31%	86%	14%	77%	22%	10%	0%	-9%
East	17%	75%	17%	38%	44%	50%	13%	0%
South	25%	47%	13%	44%	33%	11%	0%	6%
National	23%	83%	13%	47%	27%	22%	6%	0%

In December 2022 national price of key commodities such as Flour has recorded a monthly increase of (+2%), Couscous (+ 2%), Lamb meat (+1%), eggs (+6%). The southern region recorded the highest monthly price increase in Flour(+6%), while the eastern region recorded the highest monthly price increase in Vegetable Oil (+6%), Couscous (+4%), and eggs(+7%). (See table 1)

Prices of all key commodities has recorded an increase since the beginning of the Ukrainian conflict, this is especially the case for cereal groups like Flour (+23%),Couscous (83+%), Pasta(+47%). The prices are on rise across all regions since the conflict, most notably in the West for the cereal groups +31% in Flour, +86% Couscous, +77% Pasta, while the East region recorded the highest increase in Vegetable Oil price +44%, Lamb Meat +17%, Canned Tuna +50%, and Milk +13%.



## INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDEX



### Inflation

Monthly  
(Since Nov- 22)

0.1%

Yearly  
(Since Dec-21)

4.6%



### Food Inflation

0.1%

4.4%

CPI data issued by the bureau of statistics and census indicated that the monthly consumer price inflation was 0.1% in December 2022, this increase was mainly driven by the main group of food and beverages which represents 38.8% of the weight of the general index due to the high prices of most of the food sub-groups. The group of housing, water, electricity, and fuel is the second largest main group which constitutes 22.7% of the weight of the general index. The annual consumer price inflation was 4.6% during 2022. This increase is driven by an increase across all commodity groups, mainly housing, water, electricity, and fuel prices (7.9%), followed by transportation prices (7.0%), and food prices (4.4%), clothing and shoes prices (4.3%), goods and services (3.9%).

Source: Bureau of Statistics and Census