إتحاد الغرف التجارية الصناعية الزراعية الفلسطينية
Federation of Palestinian Chambers of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture

Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

Week 44: May 27 – June 02, 2025.

In this Report:

- During the reporting period, only 233 aid trucks entered the Gaza Strip—less than half the average number of trucks that used to enter in a single day before the outbreak of the war.
- All trucks were carrying flour, food parcels, and nutritional supplements for children, and were all looted on routes before reaching warehouses.
- This week, the Israeli mechanism for aid distribution was launched, and it has proven to be a complete failure in ensuring that assistance reaches the intended beneficiaries.
- The Gaza Consumer Price Index (GCPI) surged dramatically to over 2,600%, reflecting extreme inflation and skyrocketing prices of essential goods.
- The cash out commission rate reached 35% this week, clearly reflecting the extent of hardship faced by the population in securing their basic needs amid the sharp rise in the prices of essential goods.

June 22, 2025

Gaza Movement of Goods Weekly Report

1. Executive Summary:

- The report covers week 44 (May 27 – June 2, 2025), a period marked by continued war on Gaza and a deepening humanitarian crisis.
- The ongoing war has resulted in nearly 80% of Gaza's territory becoming either forcibly depopulated or No-go combat zones, leading to a new wave of displacement affecting over 1.5 million people.
- During the reporting period, only 233 aid trucks entered the Gaza Strip—less than half the average number of trucks that used to enter in a single day before the outbreak of the war. This came after a suspension of aid entry for more than 80 days.
- The trucks entered through two crossings, 167 truck through (KAS) and 66 through Route 96 Gate. All trucks were looted on route before reaching warehouses.
- The trucks were carrying flour, food parcels, and nutritional supplements for children.
- The Gaza Consumer Price Index (GCPI) surged dramatically to about 2,600%, reflecting extreme inflation and skyrocketing prices of essential goods.
- Staple food items experienced unprecedented inflation—with flour prices soaring to 43 times pre-war levels and onions increasing by over 9,000%.
- Prices for basic non-food items (like dishwashing liquid, firewood, laundry detergent, and baby diapers) have also surged, in some cases by over 1,000%.
- The market is under severe distress, with exorbitant prices, a steep rise in cash-out commission rates (up to 35%), and a palpable decline in household purchasing power.
- In response, innovative survival trades have emerged—such as the makeshift sale of used cookware and the adaptation of traditional crafts like carpentry to meet urgent needs.
- Critical services are suffering; hospitals face severe shortages of medicine, equipment, and fuel, while water and sanitation systems deteriorate amid the crisis.
- The current aid entry system remains ambiguous, and the mechanism imposed by the Israeli side for aid distribution was put into effect, with aid distributed through three main centers: **two in Rafah** and **one south of the Netzarim corridor** in central Gaza.
- The report calls for immediate financial and logistical support—including increased humanitarian aid, subsidies for raw materials and fuel, and commercial goods entry—to stabilize the deteriorating market and living conditions.
- Beyond immediate relief, the report stresses the need to support local enterprises, rebuild crucial infrastructure, and foster innovative community-driven initiatives to pave the way for sustained recovery in Gaza.

2. Distribution of the Population in the Gaza Strip:

Between May 27 and June 2, 2025, the demographic landscape of the Gaza Strip Continued to be reshaped amid intensifying military operations. The ceasefire that had lasted from January 19 to March 17 had offered a brief window of relief, during which many displaced families attempted to return to their homes. However, most found their neighborhoods reduced to rubble, forcing them to erect makeshift tents amid the destruction in an effort to reclaim a semblance of normal life. Yet large-scale returns proved impossible. The northern and eastern buffer zones remained off-limits, and in Rafah Governorate, returns were severely restricted due to the continued presence of Israeli forces along the Philadelphia Axis at the Egyptian border. Since the resumption of the war on March 18, displacement has escalated sharply. As of early June, over 80% of Gaza's land has been declared evacuation or combat zones by Israeli authorities, displacing more than 1.7 million people. Recent evacuation orders have targeted major population centers, including Beit Hanoun, Beit Lahia, Al-Tuffah, Shuja'iyya, large swathes of Khan Yunis (excluding al-Mawasi), the entirety of Rafah Governorate, and areas surrounding the Netzarim and newly enforced Morag axes.

During this time, Israeli forces intensified the construction of the so-called "Morag corridor"—a strategic east-west axis cutting through Rafah and Khan Yunis. Extending from the Sufa crossing to the Mediterranean coast, this route is being methodically cleared through widespread demolitions of civilian infrastructure. The area between Morag and the Philadelphia axis has become a focal point of destruction, raising fears of the near-total depopulation and erasure of Rafah Governorate.

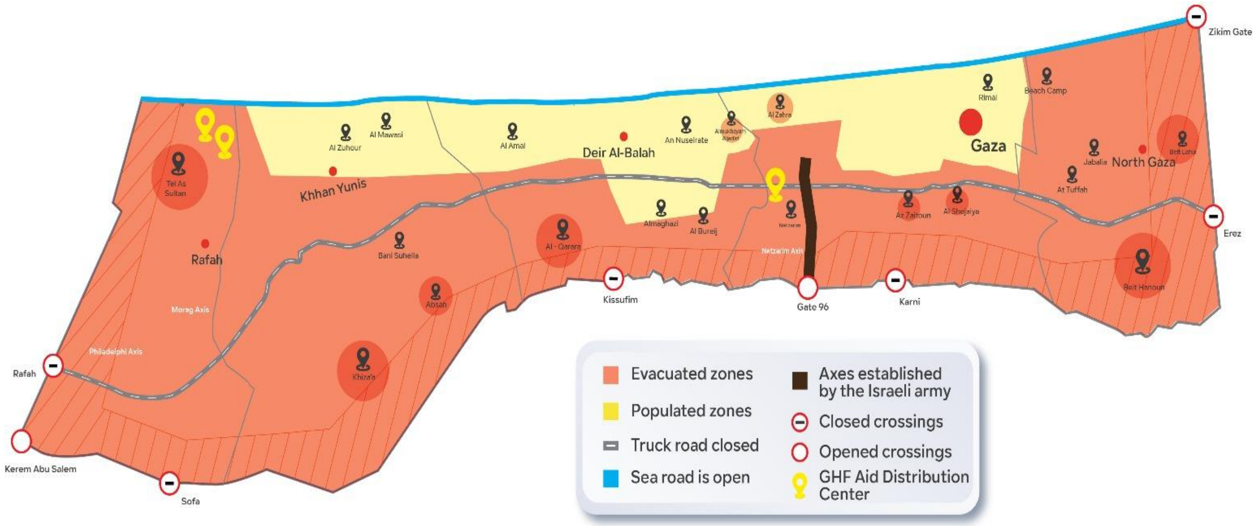

Figure (1): Map of crossings and new evacuation zones.

3. Daily Crossing Points Status:

The reporting period, which spans from Tuesday, May 27, 2025, to Monday, June 2, 2025, witnessed the entry of a limited number of humanitarian aid trucks into the Gaza Strip through two crossings: **Route 96 Gate** and **Karem Abu Salem (KAS)**. A total of **233** trucks entered during this period. The trucks were carrying flour, food parcels, and nutritional supplements for children. It is worth noting that this number does not include the trucks that entered directly into the distribution centers operated under the supervision of the Israeli army, as no information is currently available regarding the number of these trucks, however, they are loaded with food parcels containing items such as rice, vegetable oil, sugar, flour, dried legumes, taheina, tomato sauce, and biscuits. These items have been observed being sold in the markets in limited quantities and at extremely high prices. Data indicates that all trucks which entered on the four days (May 27 and 30, and June 1 and 2) were **completely looted and failed to reach their intended destinations**. No aid trucks were recorded entering on the other three days (May 28, 29, and 31) highlighting the ongoing field challenges and restrictions imposed on the flow of humanitarian aid into the Strip.

To date, the **private sector has not been permitted** to bring goods and commodities into Gaza Strip, further complicating efforts to improve food security for the people. This ban on private sector comes in light of the limited quantities of aid being allowed in and the inconsistency in its daily delivery.

This week, the mechanism imposed by the Israeli side for aid distribution was put into effect, with aid distributed through three main centers: **two in Rafah** and **one south of the Netzarim corridor** in central Gaza. These centers are operated by an American private security company under the direct supervision of the Israeli military. However, this mechanism has proven to be a **complete failure**, as it did not succeed in ensuring aid reaching the intended beneficiaries. The distribution process was marked by **chaos and randomness**, with no beneficiary lists or clear organizational procedures, leading to overcrowding and stampedes, and a complete disregard for order and the dignity of the people. The tragedy peaked when live ammunition was fired by Israeli army directly and without prior warning at civilians attempting to reach the distribution points. According to reports from the Ministry of Health, these incidents during the reporting period resulted in the **killing of 44 civilians and the injury of more than 530 others**, an appalling reflection of the scale of humanitarian suffering and a blatant violation of civilians' rights.

Table (1): Number of trucks and looted trucks for each day.

#	Day	Date	Crossing	Truck load	Number of Entered Trucks		
					Looted	Delivered	Total
1	Tuesday	27/05/2025	Route 96 Gate	Flour - Food parcels - Nutritional supplements	22	0	**22**
2	Wednesday	28/05/2025	-	-	0	0	**0**
3	Thursday	29/05/2025	-	-	0	0	**0**
4	Friday	30/05/2025	KAS	Flour - Food parcels - Nutritional supplements	110	0	**110**
5	Saturday	31/05/2025	-	-	0	0	**0**
6	Sunday	01/06/2025	KAS	Flour - Food parcels - Nutritional supplements	57	0	**57**
7	Monday	02/06/2025	Route 96 Gate	Flour - Food parcels - Nutritional supplements	44	0	**44**
Total					**233**	**0**	**233**

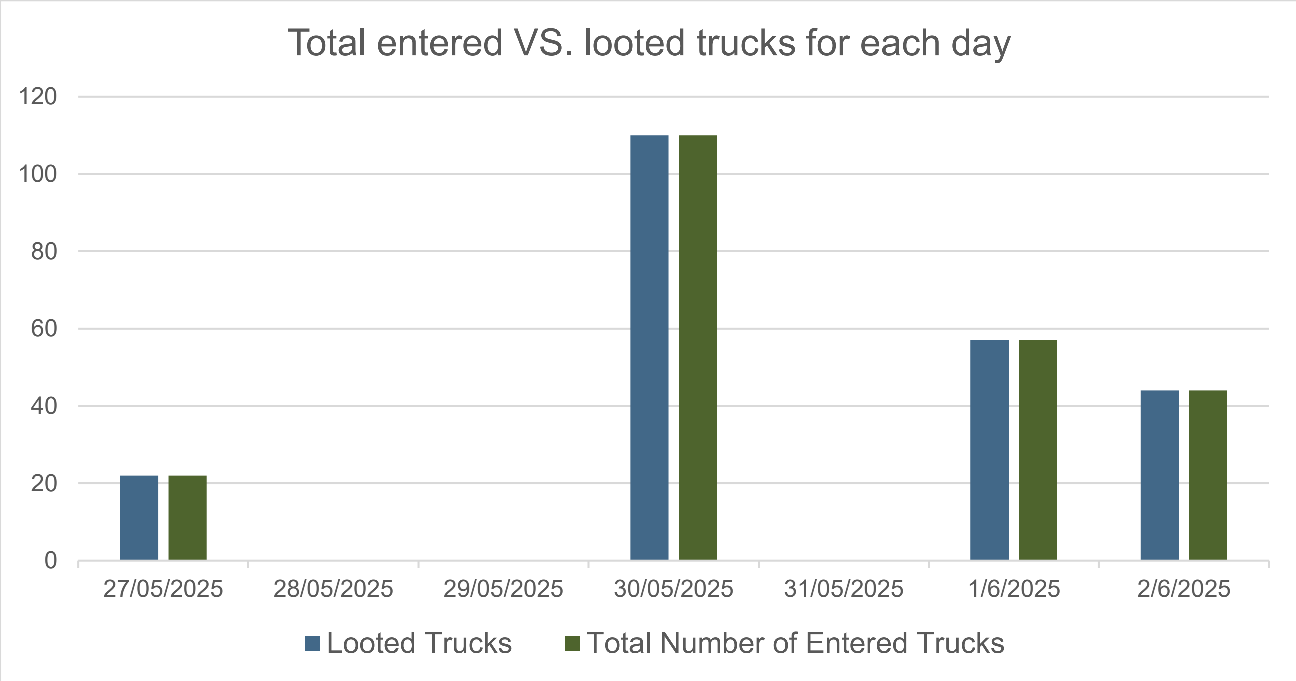

Figure (2): Total entered VS. looted trucks for each day

4. Market Prices for Basic Goods:

Despite the resumption of aid deliveries this week, prices for basic goods remain unprecedentedly high, even higher than last week, when only a very small number of trucks entered, as the analysis below shows. This is due to the extremely limited quantities allowed by the Israeli side, which do not meet the actual needs of the population. All aid has also been looted due to strict Israeli restrictions on truck routes and schedules. To date, no actual food has reached those in need, who have been deprived of it for more than 90 consecutive days.

4.1. Food Items:

The availability of food in Gaza's markets has drastically declined, with many essential items—such as frozen chicken, meat, eggs, dairy products, and fruits—completely exhausted. The remaining goods fall into two main categories:

- **Imported Staples:** Basic commodities like flour, sugar, rice, vegetable oil, macaroni, and kidney beans, typically brought in through border crossings, are now in extremely limited supply. Prices have surged, exceeding 25 times their pre-war levels, due to the prolonged closure period and the limited quantities currently allowed to enter, the aid provided represents merely a drop in the ocean compared to the population's actual needs.
- **Locally Grown Produce:** Vegetables such as tomato, cucumber, potato, eggplant, onion, and pepper are available, but production remains severely restricted. This is a direct result of the mass destruction of agricultural land through bulldozing, shelling, forced evacuations and extremely scarce and expensive production inputs.

This report tracks the market availability and pricing of 13 essential food items, comparing current values against pre-war prices, last week's prices, and February 2025 averages—the latter serving as a reference point since it marked the highest inflow of goods during the ceasefire period. These comparisons highlight the growing scarcity and volatility of food prices as the crisis deepens.

4.1.1. Current Week Vs. Pre-war Prices

A comparison of average food prices this week against pre-war levels reveals alarming inflation across all basic items.

- Every food item tracked in the report has seen a significant price surge, ranging from **402% (Kidney beans)** to **9,043% (Onion).**
- **Onion prices skyrocketed** to more than **92** times their pre-war value, followed by **sugar (60×)** and **flour (43×).**
- The prices **of Lemon, Potato, macaroni, Tomato, Eggplant and cucumber** have increased **14–26 times** compared to normal levels. The sharp rise in macaroni prices is attributed, in addition to the closure period and the limited quantities currently allowed to enter, to the widespread use of ground macaroni in bread-making as a substitute for flour by a large segment of the people.
- **Oil, rice, pepper, and kidney beans** show relatively lower but still extreme inflation rates, rising **4–10 times** their original prices, reflecting supply chain disruptions and limited alternatives.
- The average price hike across all items stands **at 2,706%,** signalling **severe hyperinflation** and worsening food insecurity, particularly for essential goods in the daily diet.

Price fluctuations remain highly volatile, with a **standard deviation of 1,555.06%**, underscoring the severe impact of scarcity, import restrictions, and logistics disruptions on inflation across various goods.

Comparing food categories:

- **Basic commodities** (flour, sugar, oil, rice, macaroni, kidney beans) have seen an **average price increase of 2,000%**.
- **Vegetables** (onion, potato, tomato, cucumber, eggplant, pepper, garlic, lemon) have risen by **1,795%**, with onion, potato, and lemon experiencing the sharpest increases, surpassing all other tracked items.

The escalating food price inflation exacerbates food insecurity and significantly weakens household purchasing power, stressing the **critical need for market stabilization and supply restoration**.

Table (2): comparing current prices of basic food items with pre-war prices.

#	Item	Unit	Price Average		% Of change
			Pre-war	Current Week	
1	Onion	Kg	2.00	182.86	9,043%
2	Sugar	Kg	3.00	180.71	5,924%
3	Flour	Sack (25Kg)	35.00	1500.00	4,186%
4	Lemon	Kg	4.00	98.00	2,350%
5	Potato	Kg	2.00	46.71	2,236%

#	Item	Unit	Price Average		% Of change
			Pre-war	Current Week	
6	Macaroni	Kg	2.50	52.43	1,997%
7	Tomato	Kg	2.00	35.71	1,686%
8	Cucumber	Kg	2.00	34.86	1,643%
9	Eggplant	Kg	2.00	28.00	1,300%
10	Oil	Liter	9.00	82.86	821%
11	Rice	Kg	8.00	65.71	721%
12	Pepper	Kg	10.00	51.43	414%
13	Kidney beans	Kg	7.00	35.14	402%
14	Frozen chicken	Kg	8.00	NA	NA
15	Garlic	Kg	2.50	NA	NA
16	Apple	Kg	5.00	NA	NA
17	Banana	Kg	2.50	NA	NA
18	Orange	Kg	4.00	NA	NA

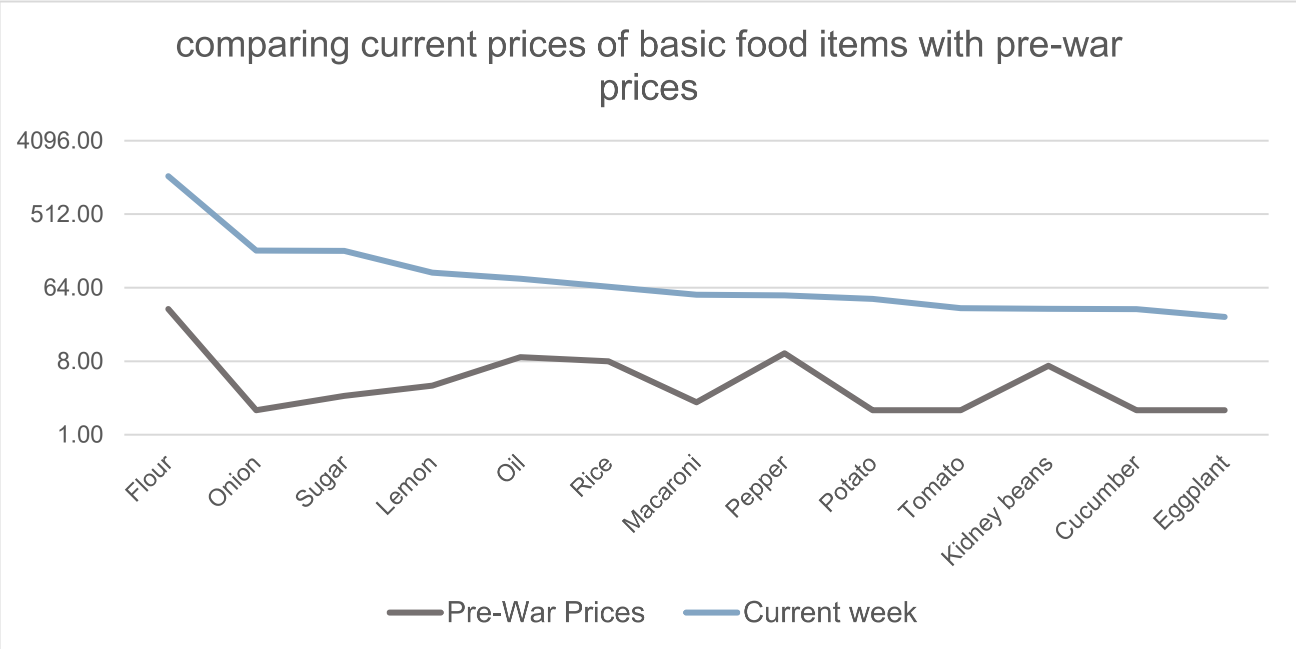

Figure (3): comparing current prices of basic food items with pre-war prices.

4.1.2. Current Week Vs. Previous week and Feb-2025 Prices:

A comparison of average prices for basic food items this week against both the previous week and February 2025 reveals the following trends:

Since February 2025:

- All 13 tracked food items now cost more than they did in February 2025.

- The increases vary widely—from a **174%** rise for **pepper** to an astounding **4,867%** surge for **flour**.

Week-to-Week Comparison:

- Nine out of the 12 items have further increased compared to the previous week, with price hikes ranging from **1%** (**Onion**) to **58%** (**Pepper**), The price of **lemon** remained constant.
- Conversely, 3 items have seen a decline relative to the previous week, with decreases between **8%** (**Rice**) and **22%** (**Oil**).

Individual Price Highlights

- Pepper prices surged 58%, driven by supply shortages and reduced agricultural land availability.
- Oil prices declined 22%, reflecting a decrease in demand.

Price Trends and Correlations

- Short-Term Change: There is a weak negative correlation (*r = -0.22, p = 0.943*) between current prices and week-over-week percentage changes, indicating that high-priced items do not necessarily exhibit large weekly fluctuations.
- Long-Term Change: A strong positive correlation (*r = 0.878, p = 0.000*) exists between current prices and changes observed since February 2025, demonstrating that items which experienced sharp price hikes during the war have maintained their elevated levels over time.

Table (3): Comparing current prices of basic food items with previous week and Feb-2025 prices.

#	Item	Unit	Current Week Prices	Comparing Current Week to Previous Week		Comparing Current Week to Feb-2025	
				Prices	% Of Change	Prices	% Of Change
1	Flour	Sack (25Kg)	1,500.00	1,810.71	-17%	30.20	4,867%
2	Onion	Kg	182.86	181.43	1%	4.95	3,597%
3	Sugar	Kg	180.71	155.71	16%	6.23	2,800%
4	Lemon	Kg	98.00	98.00	0%	6.82	1,337%
5	Macaroni	Kg	52.43	47.43	11%	5.00	949%
6	Oil	Liter	82.86	105.71	-22%	9.16	804%
7	Rice	Kg	65.71	71.43	-8%	7.36	793%
8	Potato	Kg	46.71	36.14	29%	5.32	778%
9	Kidney beans	Kg	35.14	29.43	19%	5.00	603%
10	Tomato	Kg	35.71	34.14	5%	6.43	456%
11	Cucumber	Kg	34.86	32.14	8%	8.45	313%
12	Eggplant	Kg	28.00	23.71	18%	7.89	255%
13	Pepper	Kg	51.43	32.57	58%	18.75	174%

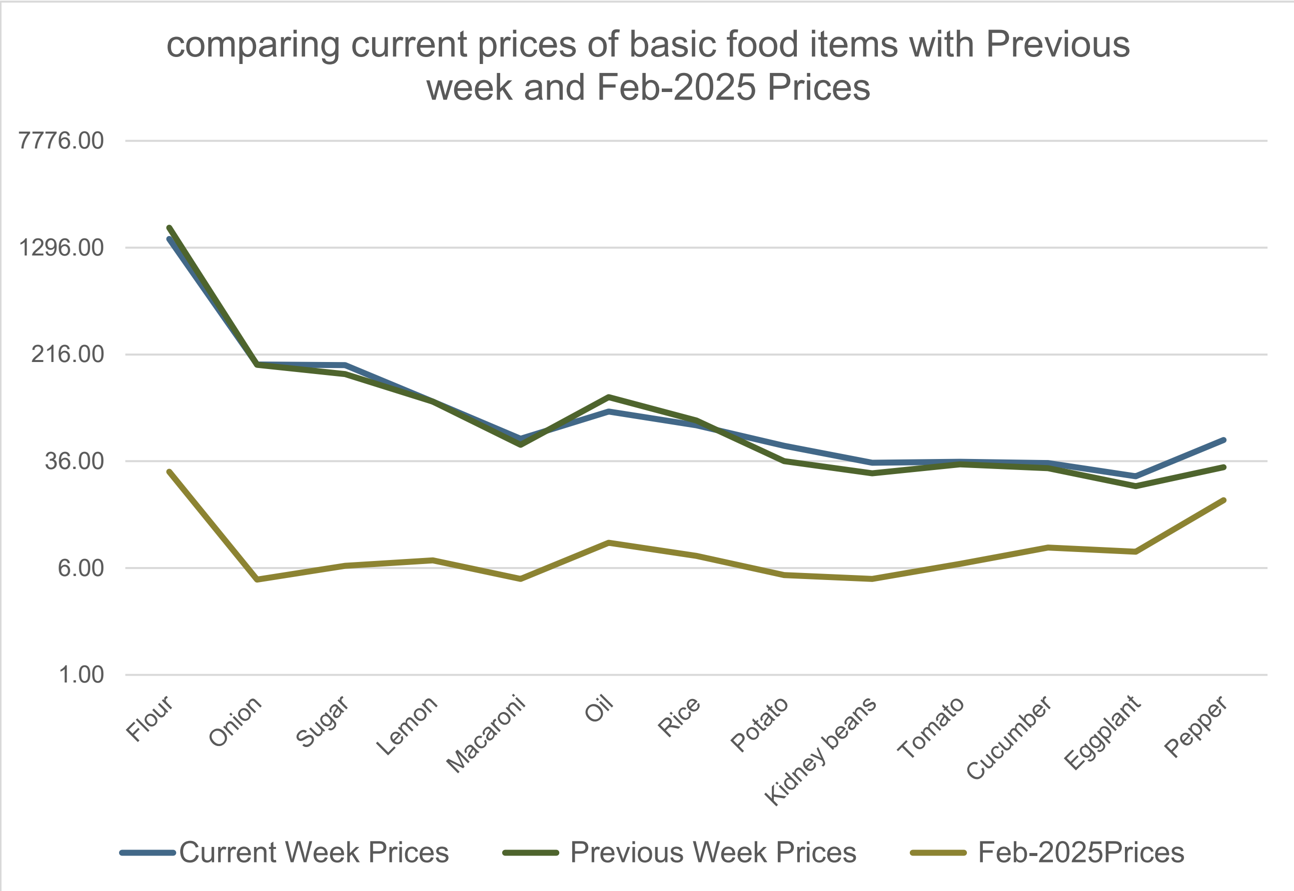

Figure (4): Comparing current prices of basic food items with previous week and Feb-2025 prices.

4.2. Non-Food Items:

This section examines the prices of six essential non-food items that are currently in high demand. Five of these items are hygiene products—**soap, dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, baby diapers, and sanitary towels**—while the sixth is **firewood**, which has become a primary substitute for cooking gas.

The analysis compares **current prices** with both **pre-war levels** and **prices from the previous week**, highlighting the impact of supply shortages and market instability on these critical goods.

4.2.1. Current Week Vs. Pre-war Prices

A comparison of average prices for basic non-food items this week against pre-war levels reveals significant increases across all six items analyzed:

- **All items** have seen price hikes, with increases ranging from **67% (sanitary towels) to 1,090% (dishwashing liquid)**.
- **Dramatic Surge in Dishwashing Liquid:** Dishwashing liquid has surged to more than 12 times its pre-war price, driven by strong demand.
- **Significant Rises in Other Items: Firewood** and **laundry detergent** prices have roughly increased about 11 and 7 times respectively, while **soap** and **baby diapers** have climbed about five times. The rise in **firewood** prices is primarily due to the shortage of cooking gas resulting from border closures.
- **Least Affected: Sanitary towels** have experienced the smallest increase, now priced **67%** above their pre-war cost.

Table (4): Comparing current prices of basic non-food items with pre-war prices.

#	Item	Unit	Pre-war Prices	Price Average (current week)	% Of Change (current week Vs. Pre-war)
1	Dishwashing liquid	Liter	6	71.43	1,090%
2	firewood	Kg	0.5	5.29	957%
3	laundry detergent	Kg	8.0	51.43	543%
4	Baby diapers	Pack (40 pcs)	29.0	168.86	482%
5	Soap	Piece	2.5	13.00	420%
6	sanitary towels	Pack (10 pcs)	6.0	10.00	67%

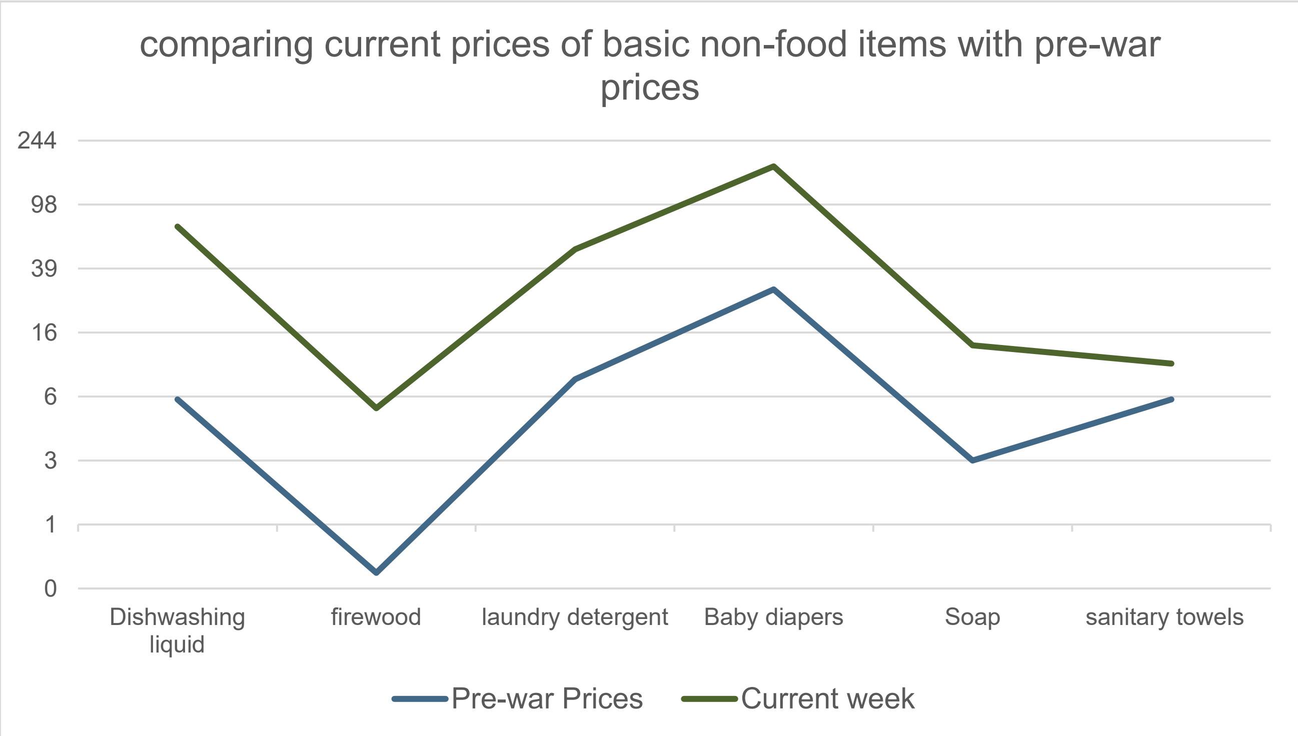

Figure (5): Comparing current prices of basic non-food items with pre-war prices.

4.2.2. Current Week Vs. Previous Week:

A comparison of average prices for basic non-food items this week versus the previous week shows that:

- **Five out of six items** experienced price increases.
- **Baby diapers saw the sharpest rise, increasing by 35%**, followed by **firewood at 12%,soap at 10%, sanitary towels at 7%, laundry detergent** and **dishwashing liquid at 4%.**

These sharp price increases highlight the severe impact of supply shortages and market disruptions, especially given that the limited goods currently entering through the crossings consist solely of food items, along with very small quantities of medicine and some shelter supplies. No non-food items or hygiene materials have been allowed in so far, further straining families' ability to access essential hygiene products and fuel.

Table (5): Comparing current prices of basic non-food items with the previous week prices.

#	Item	Unit	Price Average		% Of Change (current week vs. previous week)
			Previous Week	Current Week	
1	Baby diapers	Pack (40 pcs)	125.43	168.86	35%
2	firewood	Kg	4.71	5.29	12%
3	Soap	Piece	11.86	13.00	10%
4	sanitary towels	Pack (10 pcs)	9.36	10.00	7%
5	laundry detergent	Kg	49.29	51.43	4%
6	Dishwashing liquid	Liter	68.57	71.43	4%

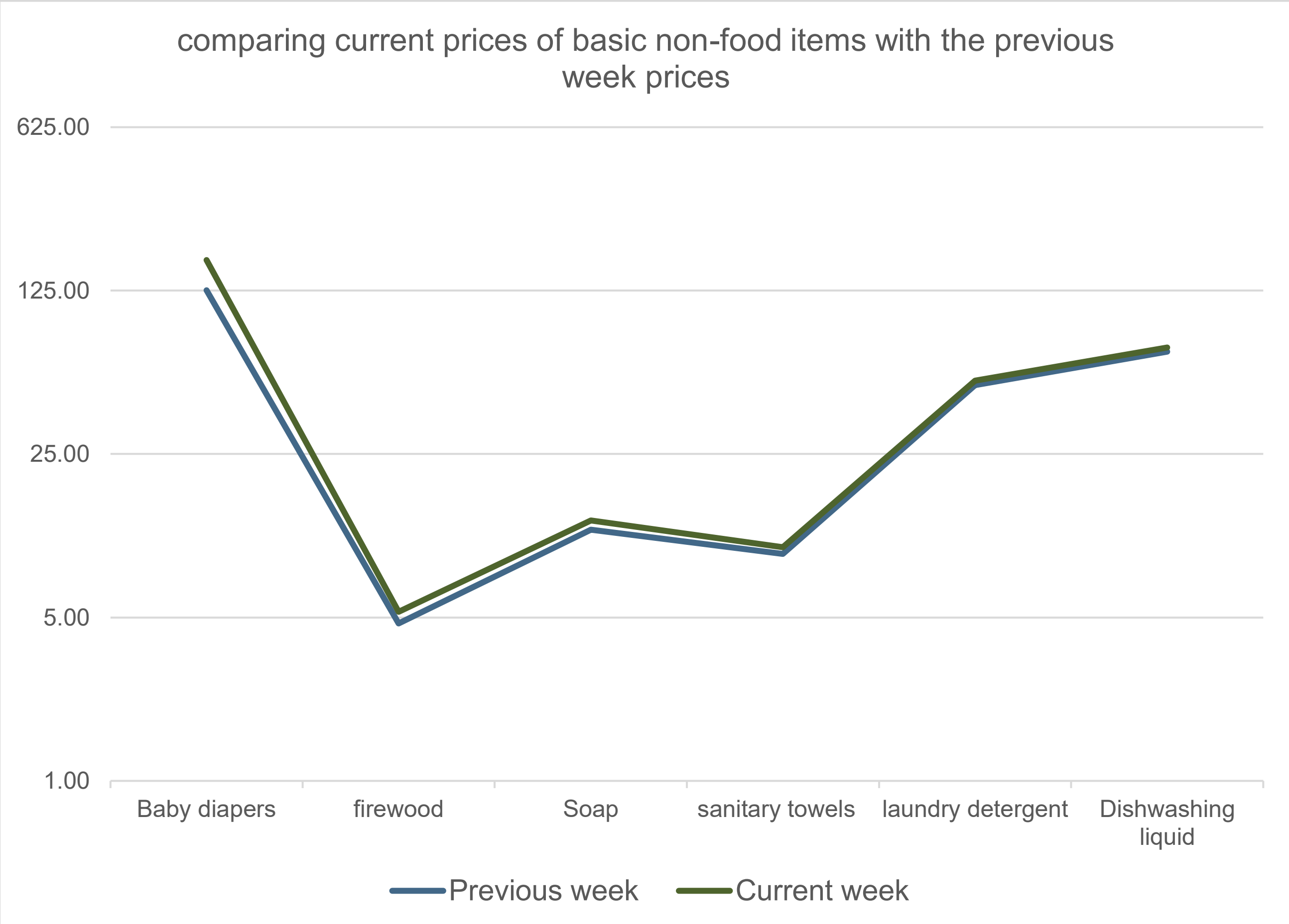

Figure (6): Comparing current prices of basic non-food items with the previous week prices.

5. Gaza Consumer Price Index (GCPI)

Since November 2024, Gaza’s economic situation has been closely monitored amid the ongoing war and severe restrictions on the entry of goods and aid. At times, these restrictions escalated into a full blockade, causing significant disruptions to market conditions. To systematically track price fluctuations in essential commodities, the Gaza Chamber of Commerce established an index covering **12 key food and non-food items** commonly purchased by households.

The index is structured to ensure reliability based on two key criteria:

- **It includes basic consumer goods** that the majority of households purchase, rather than items catering to a specific segment.
- **It focuses on consistently available products** throughout the data collection period across northern and southern Gaza.

To determine the quantity of each commodity in the index, two primary data sources were utilized:

- **Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) reports**, which provided household demographics and monthly per capita consumption rates.
- **A survey of 125 household heads**, which helped refine sub-categories within vegetables and hygiene products that were not explicitly detailed in PCBS reports.

These data points were used to calculate the **weekly consumption rate for a household of 5.5 members**, forming the basis for price comparisons in the following table:

Table (6): Basic consumer goods included in the index and their quantities.

#	Item	Unit	Quantity	Relative Importance Index
1	Flour	Kg	12.65	%38
2	Tomato	Kg	3.50	%10.50
3	Onion	Kg	3.50	%10.50
4	Cucumber	Kg	3.45	%10.30
5	Potato	Kg	2.50	%7.50
6	Rice	Kg	1.38	%4.14
7	Oil	Liter	1.37	%4.11
8	Sugar	Kg	1.00	%3
9	Soap	Piece	1.00	%3
10	Sanitary towels	Packet (12 Piece)	1.00	%3
11	Washing liquid	Liter	1.00	%3
12	Dishwashing liquid	Liter	1.00	%3

Relative Importance Index (RII) Analysis: *Flour ranks as the most significant item, comprising* ***38%*** *of the total index, underscoring its essential role in household consumption. Vegetables—including tomato, onion, cucumber, and potato—follow, with a* ***relative importance ranging from 7.50% to 10.50%****, reflecting their staple presence in daily diets. All other indexed items fall within a* ***3% to 4%*** *importance range, highlighting their comparatively lower but still notable contribution. These figures reinforce the* ***critical reliance on flour as a primary food source****, while vegetables continue to hold substantial weight in household consumption patterns.*

From **November 1, 2024, to January 30, 2025**—a span of **13 weeks**—the index was monitored **weekly** for both **northern and southern Gaza**. Given the significant price variations between the two regions, data collection and analysis were conducted **separately**. The following figure illustrates the **market value** of the basket containing **12 essential items**, based on the quantities outlined in the previous table.

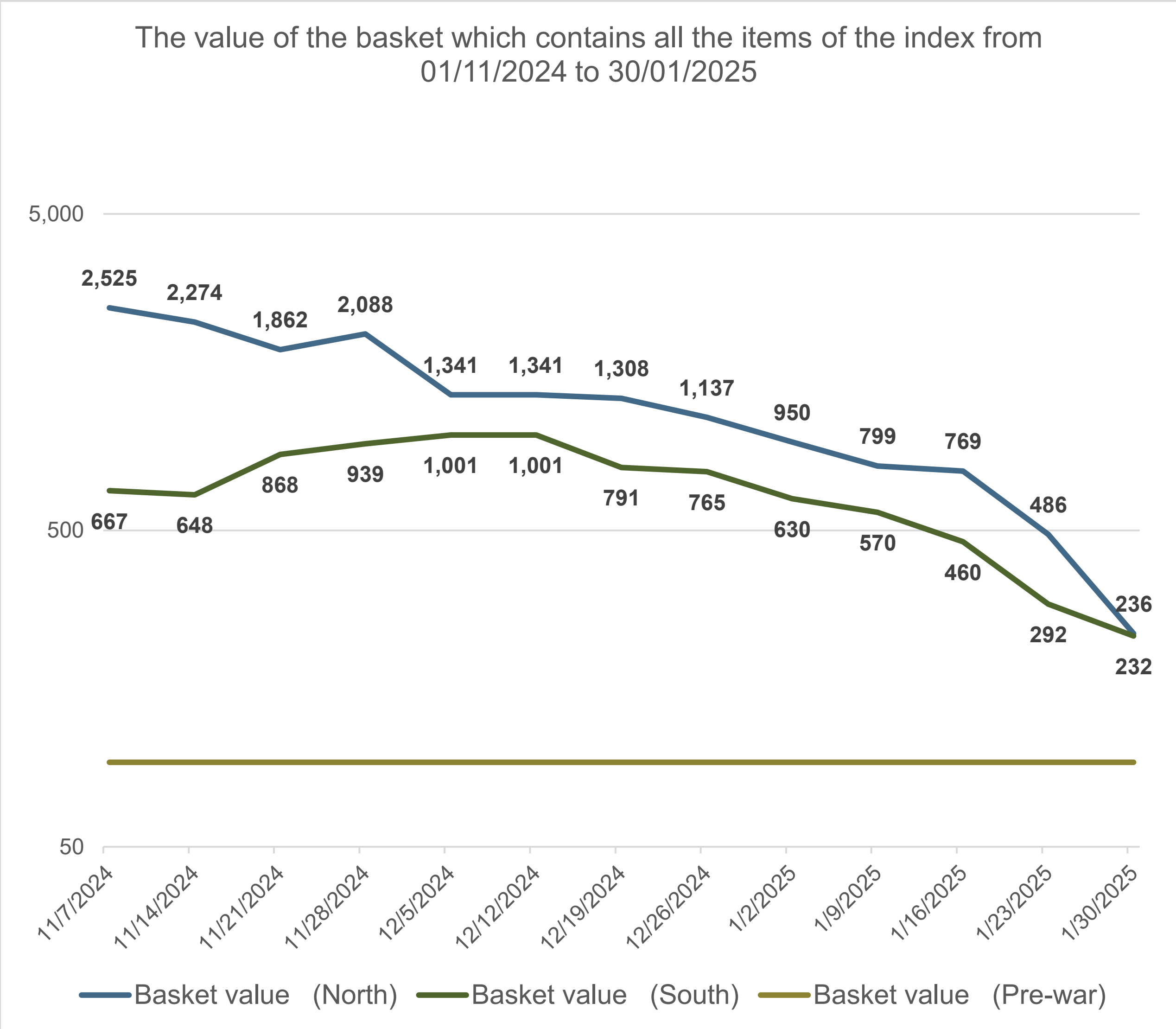

Figure (7): The value of the basket which contains all the items of the index from 01/11/2024 to 30/01/2025.

In **northern Gaza**, the index **peaked in the first week (November 1–7, 2024) at 2,732%**, before gradually declining to **251% by week 13 (January 24–30, 2025)**, aligning with the southern region's value. In **southern Gaza**, the highest index value was recorded in **weeks 5 and 6 (November 29–December 12, 2024), reaching 1,083%**.

The price disparity between northern and southern Gaza stemmed from variations in commodity inflows—larger quantities entered the **south**, while significantly fewer supplies reached the **north**. This difference led to a **gradual stabilization**, with the southern index eventually aligning with the northern trend.

From **January 31 to May 8, 2025 (spanning 13 weeks)**, the index was measured **uniformly across Gaza**, as regional price differences had diminished. The following figure illustrates the **market value of the indexed basket**, compared to its **pre-war baseline**.

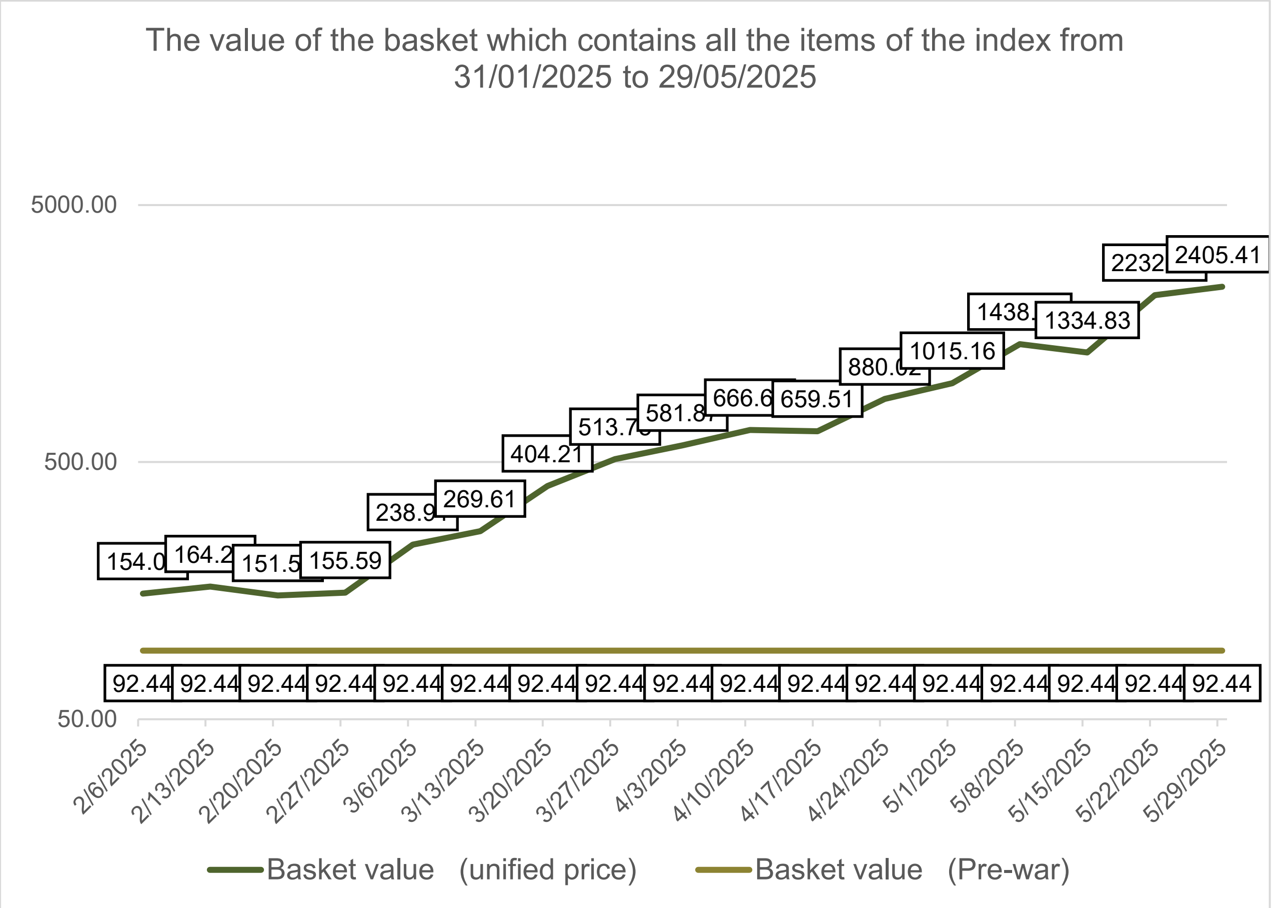

Figure (8): The value of the basket which contains all the items of the index from 31/01/2025 to 29/05/2025

Between **weeks 14 and 17 (January 31–February 27, 2025)**, the index remained **relatively stable**, reflecting the temporary market stabilization brought by the **ceasefire that began on January 19**. During this period, increased **commodity inflows** allowed markets to recover slightly, with the index reaching its **lowest recorded value in week 16 (February 14–20) at 164%**.

However, in **week 18 (February 28–March 6)**, the index **spiked sharply**, initiating a **continuous upward trend**. By the time of this report, it had **surged to 2,602%**, This indicates a significant jump compared to the previous week, with an increase exceeding 8%. This dramatic surge in prices reflects the near-total collapse of the local market system, driven by severe supply shortages, disrupted supply chains, and the irregular entry of aid. These conditions have led to unprecedented inflation and price levels far beyond what the vast majority of the population can afford. The quantities allowed in represent only a very small fraction of the population's basic needs, as confirmed by numerous reports and statements from humanitarian and UN organizations. Moreover, a large portion of this aid has been looted, and the crossing was closed for four days during the week.

6. Cash-out commission:

The data in the table below shows a continuous rise in cash-out commission rates in the Gaza Strip during the period from January 19 to the end of May 2025. This increase comes amid the ongoing war and a severe liquidity crisis that has gripped Gaza Strip, further exacerbated by the near-total disruption of banking services and the collapse of the traditional financial system. The cash-out commission started at 17% during the first week (Jan 19-25), with slight fluctuations in the initial weeks. However, starting from week six, the rate began to rise sharply, reaching 23%, and continued climbing until it peaked at 35% in week 19 (May 25-31).

This surge reflects the acute shortage of cash in the market and the difficulty people face in accessing funds due to the shutdown of banking services. As a result, citizens and merchants have increasingly relied on intermediaries and the informal market to obtain cash in exchange for high commissions. It also highlights the growing security and economic risks surrounding the transfer and circulation of money, amid the broader collapse of financial and regulatory infrastructure—further compounding the burden on people and deepening their struggle to meet basic needs.

Table (7): weekly cash out commission from 19/01/2025 to 31/05/2025.

Week	From	To	cash out commission (%)
Week 01	19/01/2025	25/01/2025	17%
Week 02	26/01/2025	01/02/2025	16%
Week 03	02/02/2025	08/02/2025	15%
Week 04	09/02/2025	15/02/2025	18%
Week 05	16/02/2025	22/02/2025	19%
Week 06	23/02/2025	01/03/2025	23%
Week 07	02/03/2025	08/03/2025	24%
Week 08	09/03/2025	15/03/2025	25%
Week 09	16/03/2025	22/03/2025	29%
Week 10	23/03/2025	29/03/2025	31%
Week 11	30/03/2025	05/04/2025	31%
Week 12	06/04/2025	12/04/2025	30%
Week 13	13/04/2025	19/04/2025	29%
Week 14	20/04/2025	26/04/2025	28%
Week 15	27/04/2025	03/05/2025	29%
Week 16	04/05/2025	10/05/2025	29%
Week 17	11/05/2025	17/05/2025	32%
Week 18	18/05/2025	24/05/2025	31%
Week 19	25/05/2025	31/05/2025	35%

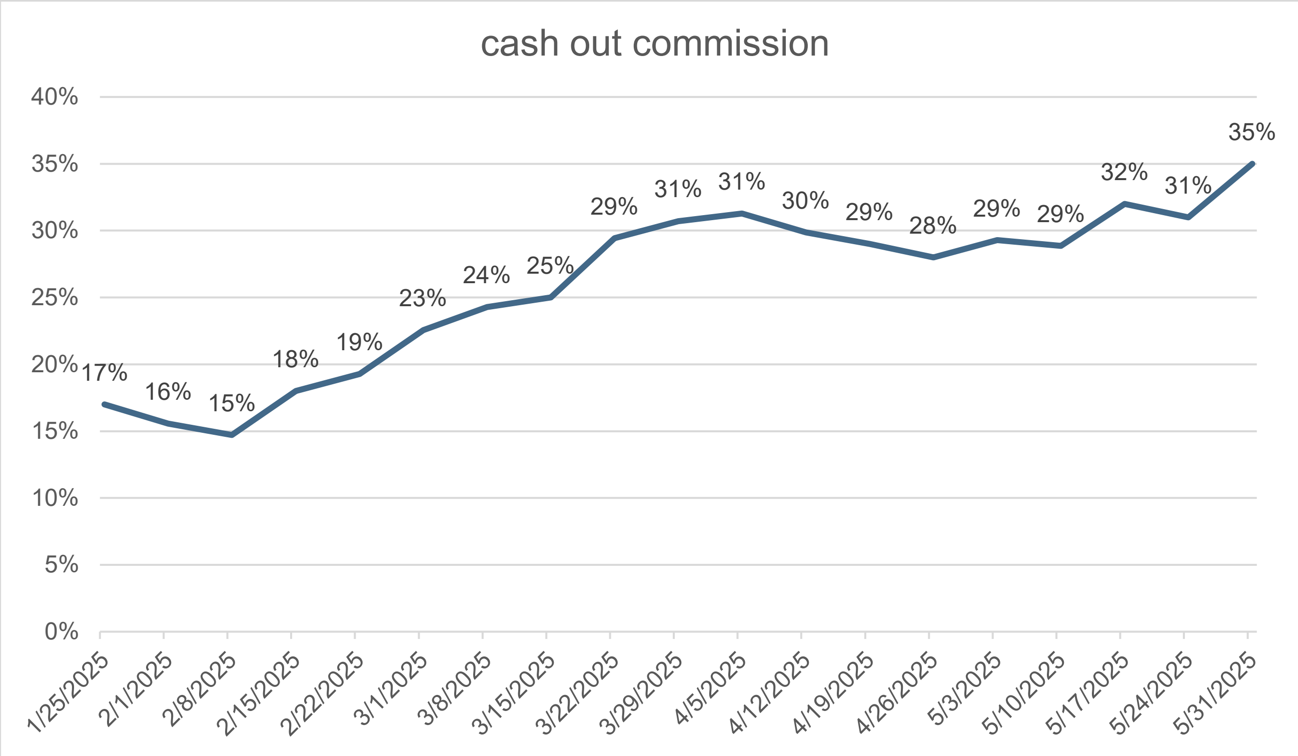

Figure (9): weekly cash out commission from 19/01/2025 to 31/05/2025

7. Emerging businesses / trades in Gaza

The ongoing war has profoundly altered Gaza's commercial and economic landscape, giving rise to **new market dynamics** shaped by emergency conditions and shifting population needs. Widespread **infrastructure destruction, supply chain disruptions, and resource shortages** have forced significant transformations in trade patterns, leading to the emergence of **unconventional economic initiatives**. These developments are not merely **immediate responses to crisis**; they reflect efforts to **adapt, survive, and innovate** in an environment where the **traditional economic framework is virtually absent**. As such, studying these emerging commercial trends is **essential**—not only to understand their impact on Gaza's **economic and social fabric**, but also to assess their potential for **evolving into sustainable solutions** amid ongoing instability.

6.1 Trading Survival: How Cookware Became a Lifeline in War-Torn Gaza

In the heart of Gaza, where destruction has rewritten daily life, a quiet trade has emerged—one that speaks to resilience, survival, and the need to rebuild, even in the smallest ways. Among the rubble and uncertainty, people are selling cookware and glassware, both used and, when available, new. It is not just commerce—it is adaptation. Displacement has forced families to leave behind everything they were accustomed to, carrying only what they can. Some have lost their homes entirely, while others struggle with vanishing incomes and dwindling resources. In response, an informal market has taken shape. In bustling street corners and temporary stalls, pots, pans, and glass containers exchange hands—not as luxuries, but as necessities. Sellers source items wherever they can—from abandoned homes, donations, or bulk purchases of damaged goods—hoping to earn enough to sustain themselves. Buyers, often newly displaced, scour these stalls searching for the simplest things: a pot to cook in, a cup to drink from, a plate to serve whatever food they can find. Every transaction is laced with quiet determination—a sign that, even amid war, life must go on. This trade, though small, is vital. It provides a lifeline for those with no other means to earn. More than that, it reflects a larger truth—the rise of micro-economies that thrive in the shadows of crisis, built not by corporations but by the hands of people refusing to surrender to devastation.

6.2 Carving Survival: How Gaza's Carpenters Rebuild Amid War

In Gaza, carpentry has always been more than a trade—it's a craft passed down through generations, shaping the tools that build homes, repair lives, and sustain livelihoods. But as war reshapes every aspect of daily existence, carpentry has evolved from a full-scale profession into something more urgent, more essential—an act of survival. With the construction sector in ruins and raw materials nearly impossible to obtain, carpenters have adapted. Their work is no longer about furniture or grand structures. Instead, it's about piecing together what remains—hammer handles, mallets, and the wooden parts of basic tools that people depend on. It's about salvaging scraps to rebuild shattered window frames and broken doors in homes battered by the war. In the absence of electricity and proper equipment, much of this work is done by hand, using whatever tools are still functional. Many workshops have been forced to close, their spaces abandoned due to unsafe conditions, soaring costs, and supply shortages. Yet, even in this uncertainty, carpenters continue—finding ways to create, to repair, to help families reclaim some semblance of stability. Their trade may have shifted, but their role remains vital. They are not simply fixing wood; they are reinforcing the spirit of a people determined to rebuild, brick by brick, with whatever they can find.

8. Coordination Mechanism:

Despite the entry of a limited number of trucks, the current coordination mechanism remains vague and **unclear**. While the Israeli side has announced that the entry process is being carried out according to the same mechanism used prior to the closure of the crossings in March, this claim has yet to be confirmed either officially or on the ground. So far, the number of trucks that have entered is so small and are limited to humanitarian aid only, with no coordination in place for the entry of goods intended for the private sector. Even with regard to humanitarian aid, the Israeli side has stated that it will be allowed in, under the previous mechanism for a **limited period only**, in preparation for a new system in which aid distribution will take place through centers supervised by the Israeli military and operated by a U.S. private security company. This raises serious concerns and questions about **transparency and equitable** access to the aid.

9. Difficulties:

- **Closure of crossings:** Severely restricting the entry of humanitarian aid and private sector goods, leaving supplies critically low.
- **Insufficient aid deliveries:** Despite claims of resumed shipments on **May 17, 2025**, the total number of trucks have entered up to the date of this report — over a period of 37 days — does not exceed 800 trucks, which is less than the number that used to enter in just two days before the war.
- **Market instability:** Shortages and price surges creating extreme economic distress.
- **Economic Challenges:**
  - **Hunger, malnutrition, and food insecurity** have significantly worsened due to insufficient supplies and the entry of only very limited quantities of flour and food items. This is further exacerbated by the chaotic distribution mechanisms imposed by the Israeli side, which are often accompanied by disorder and looting.
  - **Cash liquidity crisis:** The commission charged to obtain cash has reached extremely high levels, making it extremely difficult for people to purchase essential goods.
  - There is also a **severe shortage of raw materials**, threatening the shutdown of many businesses that are barely managing to operate at a minimal level under the current conditions.
  - **Living conditions** continue to deteriorate across all aspects of daily life.
- **Food and Agricultural Impact:**
  - **Ongoing closure of commercial crossings** driving food shortages and sharp price increases.
  - **Flour scarcity:**
    - **All bakeries shut down** due to lack of supplies.
    - **Price surged more than 51 times pre-war levels**.
  - **Reduced agricultural production** due to water shortages and lack of farming input materials.
  - **Higher reliance on imported goods** at **inflated costs**.
- **Urgent Humanitarian Concerns:**
  - **Humanitarian aid entering at an unsustainably low rate**.
  - **Millions of civilians increasingly vulnerable**, with worsening conditions.
  - **Deepening crisis with no clear resolution in sight**.

10. Recommendations:

1. **Humanitarian Aid and Essential Supplies**
   a. **Increase the quantity and variety** of humanitarian aid entering Gaza to address critical nutritional needs.
   b. **Ensure consistent and sufficient aid flow from all crossings**, as recent deliveries (May 20–22, 2025) remain drastically below required levels.
2. **Private Sector Involvement**
   a. **Allow the private sector to resume imports** of basic commodities, expanding the types and quantities of goods to stabilize market conditions across northern and southern Gaza.

   b. **Lift restrictions on imports** and grant traders direct access to **international ports**, avoiding inflated costs and commissions.
   c. **Authorize private sector imports** through **all available crossings** to improve supply chains.
3. **Energy and Infrastructure**
   a. **Enable access to solar energy** to power **cold storage** facilities for dairy products, frozen meats, and vegetables.
   b. **Provide funding to rehabilitate commercial facilities**, including **storage and cold storage units**, ensuring early recovery and market stabilization.
   c. **Trade and Transportation**
   d. **Allow humanitarian and commercial trucks** to access **all crossings and routes**, reducing transportation costs and improving supply distribution.
   e. **Ensure adequate fuel supplies and truck spare parts** for transportation companies, mitigating unjustified price hikes in commodity markets.
4. **Agricultural Recovery**
   a. **Urgently permit imports of agricultural and livestock production inputs**—seeds, tools, fertilizers—to support small farmers and **reduce dependence on external supplies**.
   b. **Strengthen partnerships between chambers of commerce and humanitarian organizations** (such as Tasdeer, Anera, and WFP) to support recovery in **trade, industry, and agriculture**.
5. **Market Stability and Financial Access**
   a. **Promote electronic wallets and other e-payment systems** among consumers and retailers, allowing businesses to accept digital humanitarian vouchers by restoring **power and internet** access.
   b. **Find effective, transparent mechanisms** to coordinate commodity entry through crossings, ensuring proper **prioritization and distribution**.
   c. **Lift all restrictions on private-sector imports**, including **school supplies, shelter materials, and essential non-food items**.
   d. **Introduce market control measures** to **prevent monopolies**, regulate **pricing**, and **reduce inflation**, ensuring fair access to essential goods.

These actions are crucial to mitigating the **worsening humanitarian crisis**, stabilizing **economic conditions**, and supporting **long-term recovery** in Gaza.

11. Conclusion

This week witnessed the entry of 233 aid trucks into the Gaza Strip, with 167 trucks entering through Karem Abu Salem (KAS) crossing and 66 through Route 96 Gate, while all other crossings remained closed. All of the trucks were looted on routes before they could reach the World Food Programme warehouses. This week also marked the beginning of the implementation of the aid distribution mechanism that the Israeli side is attempting to impose. However, this mechanism has failed disastrously and, on the contrary, resulted in catastrophic consequences for people. It led to the deaths of 44 people and injured more than 530 others during attempts to reach the distribution points. The Israeli side continues to prevent private sector traders from obtaining permits to bring goods and commodities into Gaza, indicating a lack of genuine intention to resolve the food crisis. The private sector is the main driver behind the availability of goods and price stability in the markets. The clearest evidence of this is that, two weeks after the resumption of aid entry, food prices in the markets are still rising instead of declining. The Gaza Consumer Price Index for basic goods increased by about 8% compared to the previous week, reaching an unprecedented level of 2,602%.

12. Annex

12.1. Daily prices:

Table (8): Standard deviation of daily prices

#	Item	27/05	28/05	29/05	30/05	31/05	01/06	02/06	Aver.	St. Dev
1	Flour	1750	1750	1750	1250	1250	1625	1125	1500.00	**279.51**
2	Sugar	170	170	160	195	180	170	220	180.71	**20.50**
3	Pepper	40	40	40	60	80	40	60	51.43	**15.74**
4	Rice	80	70	70	50	70	70	50	65.71	**11.34**
5	Oil	100	90	85	80	75	75	75	82.86	**9.51**
6	Onion	180	200	180	180	180	180	180	182.86	**7.56**
7	Eggplant	26	25	25	35	25	25	35	28.00	**4.80**
8	Macaroni	50	50	46	55	60	56	50	52.43	**4.76**
9	Kidney beans	30	30	33	40	40	33	40	35.14	**4.71**
10	Lemon	100	90	NA	100	100	100	NA	98.00	**4.47**
11	Tomato	40	35	32	35	32	38	38	35.71	**3.09**
12	Potato	45	46	45	48	48	45	50	46.71	**1.98**
13	Cucumber	35	35	35	35	35	32	37	34.86	**1.46**

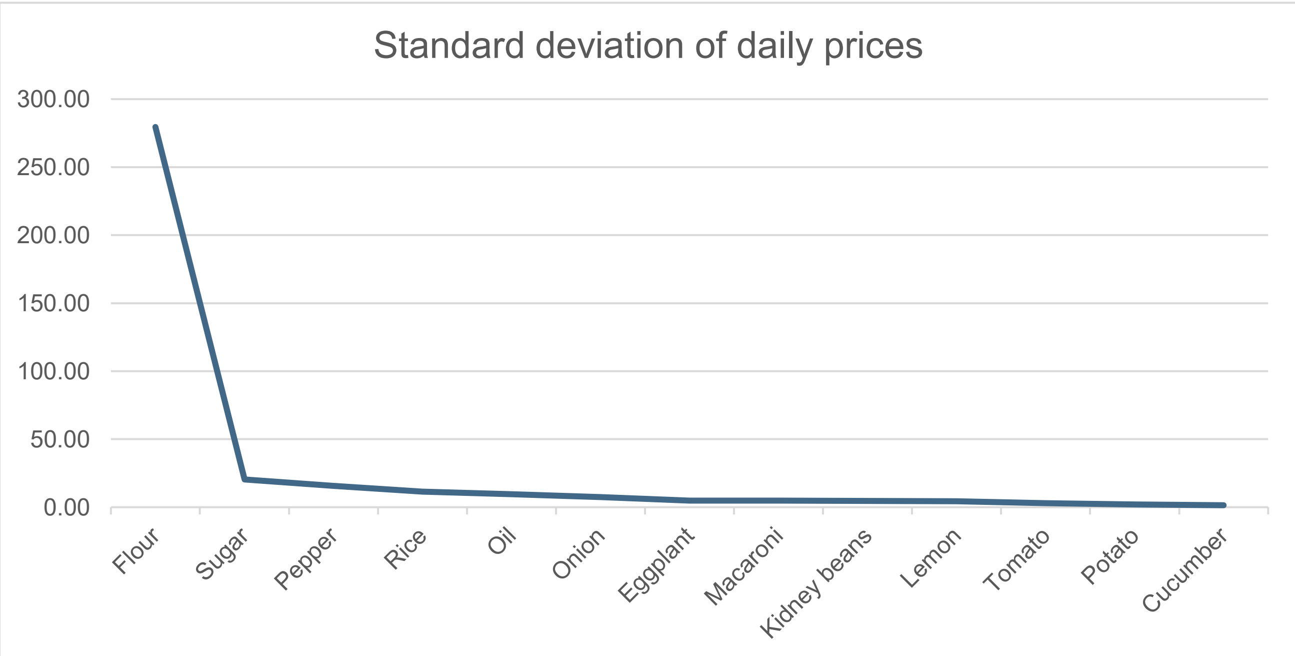

Figure (10): Standard deviation of daily prices.

12..2. Price Volatility:

From the previous tables, goods can be grouped according to the severity of price fluctuations based on the standard deviation value into three categories:

Fixed-price goods:

These are goods whose standard deviation is (0), meaning that their prices remained completely stable throughout the reporting period. No items are locating in this category.

Stable-price goods:

These are goods whose standard deviation ranges between (0-1), meaning that their prices changed at slight rates during the reporting period. no items are locating in this category.

Volatile-price goods:

These are commodities whose standard deviation is greater than (1), meaning that they have experienced sharp price fluctuations during the reporting period. All commodities have a volatile price this week.

12.3. Gaza Consumer Price Index Values:

Table (9): The value of the basket which contains all the items of the index from 01/11/2024 to 30/01/2025

Period	From	To	Northern Gaza Strip		Southern Gaza Strip	
			Basket Value	Index Value	Basket Value	Index Value
Week 01	01/11/2024	07/11/2024	2,524.69	2,731%	666.75	721%
Week 02	08/11/2024	14/11/2024	2,274.29	2,460%	647.96	701%
Week 03	15/11/2024	21/11/2024	1,862.35	2,015%	868.28	939%
Week 04	22/11/2024	28/11/2024	2,087.81	2,259%	938.89	1,016%
Week 05	29/11/2024	05/12/2024	1,341.35	1,451%	1,000.53	1,082%
Week 06	06/12/2024	12/12/2024	1,341.35	1,451%	1,000.53	1,082%
Week 07	13/12/2024	19/12/2024	1,307.71	1,415%	790.55	855%
Week 08	20/12/2024	26/12/2024	1,136.86	1,230%	765.48	828%
Week 09	27/12/2024	02/01/2025	950.48	1,028%	629.52	681%
Week 10	03/01/2025	09/01/2025	799.07	864%	569.72	616%
Week 11	10/01/2025	16/01/2025	769.29	832%	459.98	498%
Week 12	17/01/2025	23/01/2025	485.70	525%	292.27	316%
Week 13	24/01/2025	30/01/2025	235.98	255%	231.81	251%

Table (10): The value of the basket which contains all the items of the index from 31/01/2024 to 24/04/2025.

Period	From	To	Basket value (unified price)	Index Value
Week14	31/01/2025	06/02/2025	154.06	167%
Week15	07/02/2025	13/02/2025	164.26	178%
Week16	14/02/2025	20/02/2025	151.51	164%
Week17	21/02/2025	27/02/2025	155.59	168%
Week18	28/02/2025	06/03/2025	238.91	258%
Week19	07/03/2025	13/03/2025	269.61	292%
Week20	14/03/2025	20/03/2025	404.21	437%
Week21	21/03/2025	27/03/2025	513.75	556%
Week22	28/03/2025	03/04/2025	581.87	629%
Week23	04/04/2025	10/04/2025	666.69	721%
Week24	11/04/2025	17/04/2025	659.51	713%
Week25	18/04/2025	24/04/2025	880.02	952%
Week26	25/04/2025	01/05/2025	1015.16	1,098%
Week27	02/05/2025	08/05/2025	1438.19	1,556%
week28	09/05/2025	15/05/2025	1334.83	1,444%
week29	16/05/2025	22/05/2025	2,232.80	2,415%
week30	23/05/2025	29/05/2025	2405.41	2,602%