



**Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Counter Narcotics**



UNODC
United Nations Office on
Drugs and Crime

September 2011 مطابق میزان ۱۳۹۰ هجری - شمسی

Afghanistan Opium Price Monitoring Monthly Report



**Ministry of Counter Narcotics, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Kabul
And
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Kabul**

Summary

- MCN/UNODC Survey coordinators jointly collect the drug prices. Prices are collected at the last week of every month from around twenty farmers and twenty traders depending on the availability of the farmers and traders. Prices are collected generally from different farmers and traders each month; however the price data collection is sourced from a few known farmers and traders as well.
- Opium prices are collected from 18 of 34 provinces namely Badakhshan, Baghlan, Badghis, Balkh, Farah, Faryab, Ghor, Hilmand, Hirat, Kandahar, Kunar, Kunduz, Laghman, Nangarhar, Nimroz, Uruzgan, Takhar and Zabul. The province of Baghlan has been included in the opium price monitoring as of August and the provinces of Uruzgan and Zabul have been included in the opium price monitoring as of September 2011. The prices of dry and fresh opium are collected from farmers (at farm-gate level) and traders (at trader level).
- Different varieties of heroin, morphine and cannabis resin prices are collected from six provinces of Afghanistan namely Badakhshan, Balkh, Hirat, Nangarhar, Kandahar and Takhar. As of February 2011, prices of some licit crops such as wheat, saffron and cotton are also collected from six provinces of Afghanistan.
- Different varieties of opium, heroin and hashish prices are also collected for Peshawar the nearest town in Pakistan. Prices are collected and reported by UNODC office in Peshawar, Pakistan.
- Prices are reported in different currencies in different regions. The prices in Eastern region (Kunar, Laghman and Nangarhar) and Southern region (Hilmand and Kandahar) are reported in Pakistani rupees. In Northern (Balkh, Baghlan, Farayb) and North-eastern (Badakhshan, Kunduz, Takahr) regions, the prices are reported in Afghani. However, prices are reported in two different currencies namely Afghani and Iranian Tuman in Western region. The prices are converted in US\$ using the exchange rate from oanda.com site considering the rates on the same date the observation is made.
- As of August 2011, prices are also presented in local currency for convenience of certain analysis; however the national average prices are presented in USD. At the regional level, average prices are reflected in local currency with exception of the Western region since prices are reported in two different currencies.

- **Average¹ dry Opium price in Afghanistan, (US\$/kg)**

Dry Opium	Sep-10	Sep-11	Increase/ Decrease (%)
<i>Farm-gate price (US\$/Kg)</i>	207	246	+19%
<i>Trader price (US\$/Kg)</i>	226	262	+16%

- **Average² fresh Opium price in Afghanistan, (US\$/kg)**

Fresh Opium	Sep-10	Sep-11	Increase/ Decrease (%)
<i>Farm-gate price (US\$/Kg)</i>	173	210	+21%
<i>Trader price (US\$/Kg)</i>	184	220	+20%

¹ Simple average of all observations

² Simple average of all observations

- **Average³ Cannabis Resin prices in Afghanistan, (US\$/kg)**

Types of cannabis resin	Sep-10	Sep-11	Increase/ Decrease (%)
Cannabis resin (Garda # 1) price in (US\$/kg)	125	136	+9%
Cannabis resin (Garda # 2) price in (US\$/kg)	98	94	-4%
Cannabis resin (Garda # 3) price in (US\$/kg)	33	35	+5%

- **Heroin (best quality) and Hashish prices in Peshawar, Pakistan (US\$/kg)**

Types of Heroin/Hashish	Sep-10	Sep-11	Increase/Decrease (%)
Heroin - White (Injection) price (US\$/kg)	4437	5057	+14%
Hashish - (Garda # 1) price (US\$/kg)	677	575	-15%
Hashish - (Garda # 2) price (US\$/kg)	584	379	-35%
Hashish - (Garda # 3) price (US\$/kg)	444	241	-46%

- **Average⁴ prices of Heroin, Opium and Hashish at consumer level in Afghanistan, (US\$/kg)**

Types of drugs	Aug-11	Sep-11	Increase/Decrease (%)
Heroin	6420	6335	-1%
Opium	577	636	+10%
Hashish	340	312	-8%

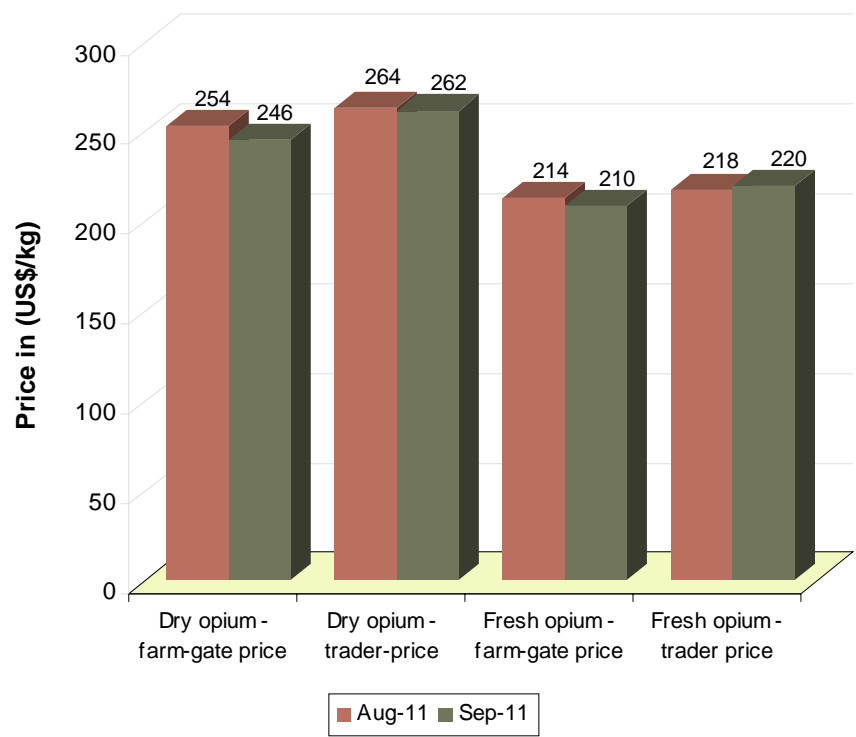
- **Prices of Cotton, Saffron and Wheat in Afghanistan, (US\$/kg)**

Types of crops	Aug-11	Sep-11	Increase/Decrease (%)
Cotton	1.97	1.84	-0.07
Saffron	1379	1659	+0.2
Wheat	0.43	0.42	-0.02

³ Simple average of all observations

⁴ Simple average of all observations

Price change of Dry Opium and Fresh Opium between August 2011 and September 2011



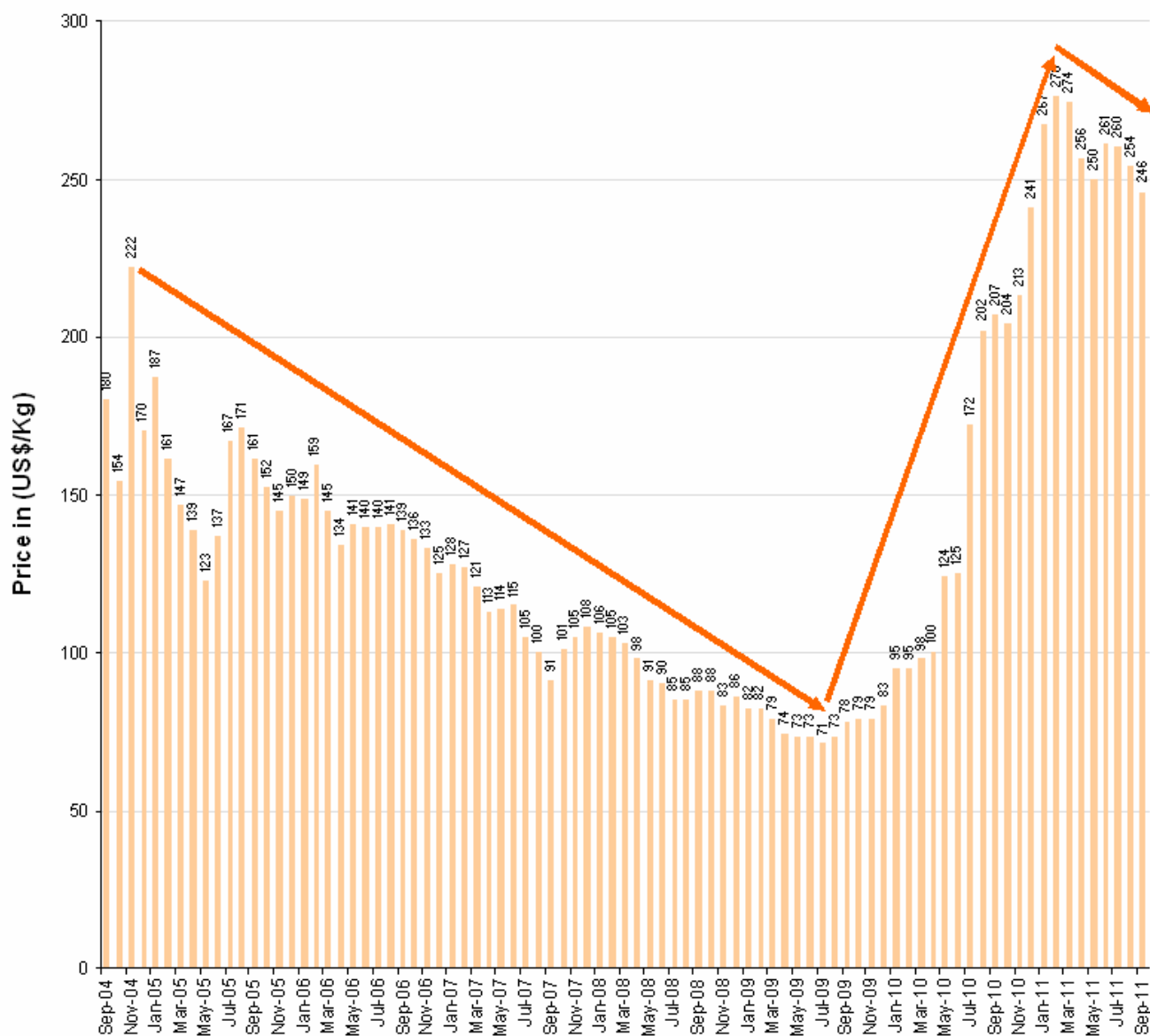
DRY OPIUM:

FARM-GATE PRICE:

At the end of September 2011, the national average price for one kilogram of dry opium in Afghanistan at the farm-gate level was **US\$ 246/kg** with **3%** Decrease compared to price reported in August 2011 (**US\$ 254/kg**). The prices of dry opium at farm-gate level has decreasing trend since February 2011.

The average dry opium price at the farm-gate level in September 2011 is **19%** higher than the price reported in September 2010 which was **US\$ 207/kg**.

Graph 1: National ⁵Average price of dry opium at farm-gate level from September 2004 to September 2011



⁵ Simple average of all observations

TRADER PRICE:

At the end of September 2011, the national average dry opium price collected from traders was **US\$ 262/kg** with **1%** decrease compared to the price reported in August 2011 (**US\$ 264/kg**).

The average dry opium price at trader level in September 2011 is **16%** higher than the price reported in September 2010 which was **US\$ 226/kg**.

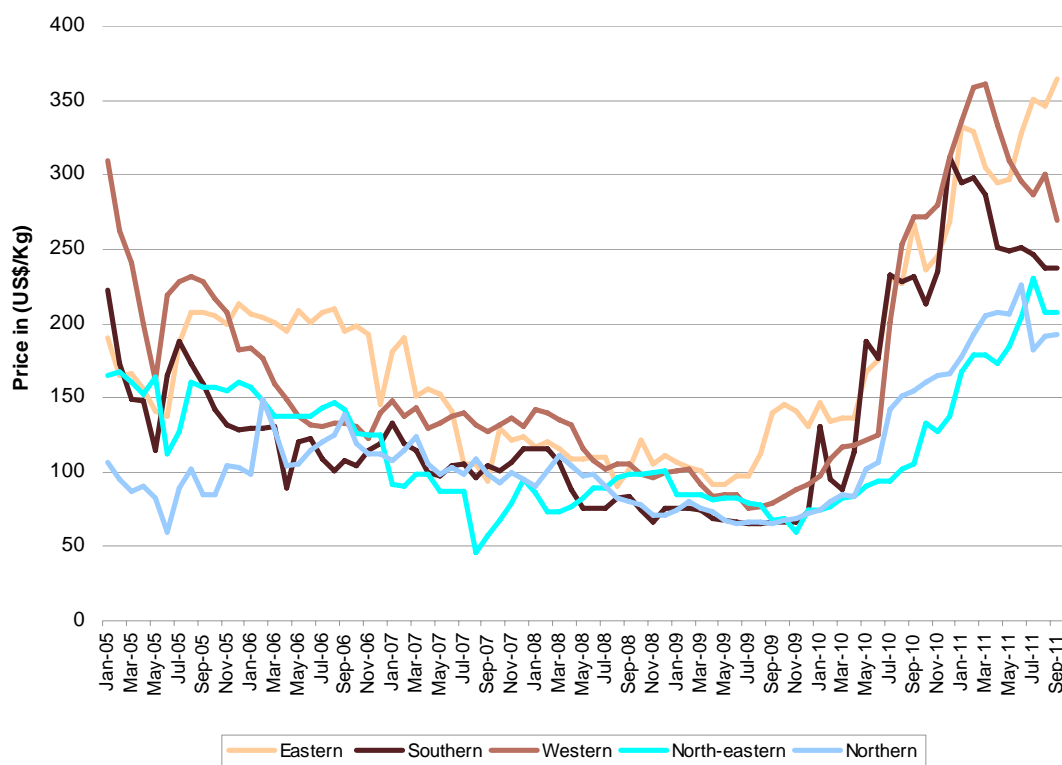
Dry opium price collected from traders has increased by 5%, 0.5% and 1% in Eastern, North-eastern and Northern regions respectively. In the Western region, prices have decreased by 10% in September 2011.

Prices are lower in North and North-eastern regions compared to other regions where plenty of opium is available. Limited trafficking routes (unofficial crossing borders) are one of the main factors behind the lower prices in the above mentioned regions.

Table 1: Regional average⁶ price of dry opium collected from traders (US\$/Kg)

Region	Price of Dry Opium (US\$/Kg)		Price change (%)
	Aug-11	Sep-11	
Eastern region (Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar)	346	365	+5%
Southern region (Hilmand, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Zabul)	237	237	0%
Western region (Badghis, Farah, Ghor, Hirat, Nimroz)	300	269	-10%
North-eastern region (Badakhshan, Kunduz, Takhar)	207	208	+0.5%
Northern region (Baghlan, Balkh, Faryab)	191	192	+1%
Average	264	262	-1%

Graph 2: Regional average² price of dry opium from traders (January 2005 to September 2011)



⁶ Simple average of all observations

Table 2: Regional average⁷ price of dry opium in local currency

		Price of 1 kg of Dry Opium in local currency					
		Aug-11		Sep-11			
Region	Local currency	Farm-gate	Trader	Farm-gate	Trader	Change at farm-gate level (Sep-Aug)	Cange at trader level (Sep-Aug)
Eastern region (Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar)	Pakistani Rupee	29,545	29,989	31,115	31,544	+5%	+5%
Southern region (Hilmand, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Zabul)	Pakistani Rupee	19,173	20,496	20,175	21,972	+5%	+7%
Western region (Badghis, Ghor) *	Afghani	12,241	12,580	12,340	12,698	+1%	+1%
Western region (Farah, Hirat, Nimroz) *	Imanian Tuman	369,642	387,906	375,857	394,193	+2%	+2%
North-eastern region (Badakhshan, Kunduz, Takhar)	Afghani	9,254	9,750	8,641	10,158	-7%	+4%
Northern region (Baghlan, Balkh, Faryab)	Afghani	8,750	8,999	9,057	9,432	+4%	+5%

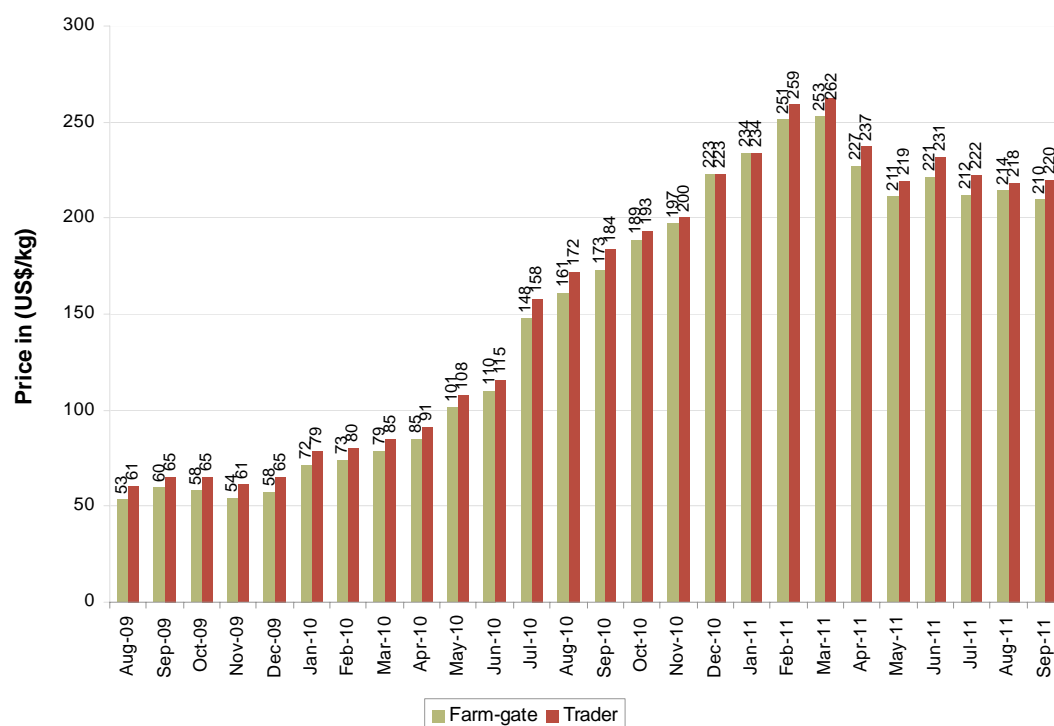
* Western region is divided in two groups because of prices available in two currencies

FRESH OPIUM:

At the end of September 2011, the national average price of fresh opium was **US\$ 210/kg** and **US\$ 220/kg** at the farm-gate and trader level with **2%** decrease and **1%** increase respectively compared to the price reported in August 2011 which was **US\$ 214/kg** and **US\$ 218/kg** at the farm-gate and trader level respectively.

After the harvest season there is no fresh opium available, but farmers keep their fresh opium in plastic bags or dishes covered with leaves in order to preserve moisture. This opium is referred as fresh opium.

Graph 3: National average⁸ price of fresh opium at farm-gate and trader level, US\$/kg (August 2009 to September 2011)



⁷ Simple average of all observations

⁸ Simple average of all observations

Table 3: Regional average⁹ price of 1 kilogram of fresh opium in local currency

		Price of 1 kg of Fresh Opium in local currency					
		Aug-11		Sep-11			
Region	Local currency	Farm-gate	Trader	Farm-gate	Trader	Change at farm-gate level (Sep-Aug)	Cange at trader level (Sep-Aug)
Eastern region (Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar)	Pakistani Rupee	23,133	23,609	26,608	27,066	+15%	+15%
Southern region (Hilmand, Kandahar, Uruzgan, Zabul)	Pakistani Rupee	14,125	15,270	14,881	16,426	+5%	+8%
Western region (Badghis, Ghor) *	Afghani	10,633	10,970	10,836	11,194	+2%	+2%
Western region (Farah, Hirat, Nimroz) *	Imanian Tuman	292,801	306,936	298,941	312,628	+2%	+2%
North-eastern region (Badakhshan, Kunduz, Takhar)	Afghani	9,842	10,400	NA	NA	NA	NA
Northern region (Baghlan, Balkh, Faryab)	Afghani	7,794	8,116	8,073	8,442	+4%	+4%

* Western region is divided in two groups because of prices available in two currencies

Table 4: Number of observations of dry and fresh opium prices

	Number of observations (n)		Number of provinces price collected
	Farm-gate price	Trader price	
Dry Opium	199	198	18
Fresh Opium	165	164	15

HEROIN:

There are several types of heroin available in Afghanistan with different quality. The prices of White powder (injection) in Nangarhar province, White powder (Crystal) in Kandahar and Balkh provinces and Off-white (Crystal)-100% in Badakhshan province are the most expensive heroin reported in Afghanistan. The cheapest heroin (**US\$ 46/kg**) is called as Khata # 2 reported in Nangarhar province.

Table 5: Prices of different types of Heroin in Afghanistan, (US\$/kg), Sep 2010 - Sep 2011

Province	Types of Heroin	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Change (September-August) %
Badakhshan	Chara (20%)	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	1020	998	-0.02
	Off- white powder (Crystal) - 100%	2813	2983	2979	3300	3522	3765	3756	3630	3568	3612	4261	4252	4072	-0.04
Balkh	Bist powder	2669	2674	2674	2647	2690	2722	2761	2772	2736	2757	2578	2594	2545	-2%
	White powder (Crystal)	4540	4541	4539	4490	4552	4596	4638	4631	4563	4596	4368	4379	4276	-2%
Hirat	Morphine	1078	1028	1056	1103	1429	1442	1500	1364	1364	1364	1304	1277	1250	-2%
	Off- white coarse powder (Crystal)	2184	2083	2121	2150	2200	2221	2310	2091	1818	1909	1826	1702	1750	+0.03
	White powder	1650	1574	1612	1645	1810	1827	1900	1636	1545	1636	1565	1362	1583	+0.2
Kandahar	Morphine	2450	2440	2450	2790	2850	2847	2906	2900	2879	2914	2848	2852	2863	+0.004
	Off- white powder (Batan) - high quality	2000	2045	2040	2140	2124	2117	2183	2175	2141	2141	2092	2078	2061	-1%
	Off- white powder (Batan) - low quality	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	1385	1374	-1%
	White powder (Crystal)	3700	3650	3680	4170	4155	4140	4342	4338	4282	4223	4057	4041	4066	+0
Nangarhar	Bist powder	1728	1678	2035	2311	2546	2588	2607	2976	2521	2479	2678	3005	2897	-4%
	Chara # 1	230	202	209	347	231	141	154	143	141	118	116	173	174	+0.2%
	Chara # 2	58	98	99	116	93	71	71	71	70	83	58	92	70	-25%
	Khata # 1	115	104	105	58	81	94	83	95	117	94	105	92	81	-12%
	Khata # 2	23	40	41	46	58	59	59	24	47	35	58	46	46	0%
	Off- white powder (Batan)	2880	3298	3256	3467	3241	3764	3673	3452	3693	3660	3726	3930	3998	+0.02
	White powder (Injection)	3456	4050	4070	4334	4167	5058	4858	4404	4924	4841	5006	5086	5214	+0.03
Takhar	Off- white powder (Crystal) - 60%	2658	2761	2759	2860	2972	2988	2983	2856	2811	2920	2983	2971	2993	+0.01

⁹ Simple average of all observations

Graph 4: Prices of different types of heroin in Afghanistan, (US\$/kg), September 2011

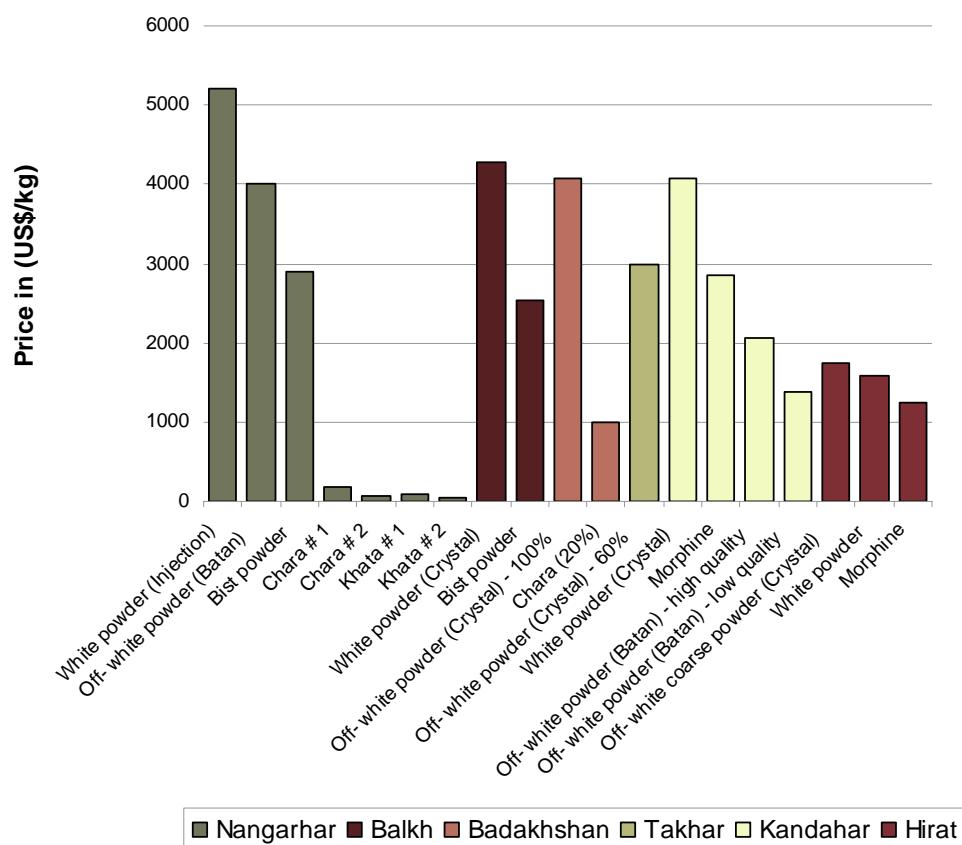


Table 6: Prices of 1 kilogram of different types of Heroin in local currency

Province	Types of heroin	Local currency	Prices of 1 kg of different types of heroin in local currency		Change (September-August) %
			Aug-11	Sep-11	
Badakhshan	Chara (20%)	Afghani	48,000	49,000	0.02
	Off- white powder (Crystal) - 100%	Afghani	200,000	200,000	0%
Balkh	Bist powder	Afghani	122,000	125,000	+2%
	White powder (Crystal)	Afghani	206,000	210,000	+2%
Hirat	Morphine	Iranian Tuman	1,500,000	1,500,000	0%
	Off- white coarse powder (Crystal)	Iranian Tuman	2,000,000	2,100,000	5%
	White powder	Iranian Tuman	1,600,000	1,900,000	19%
Kandahar	Morphine	Pakistani Rupee	247,000	250,000	+1%
	Off- white powder (Batan) - high quality	Pakistani Rupee	180,000	180,000	0%
	Off- white powder (Batan) - low quality	Pakistani Rupee	120,000	120,000	0%
	White powder (Crystal)	Pakistani Rupee	350,000	355,000	+1%
Nangarhar	Bist powder	Pakistani Rupee	260,000	250,000	-4%
	Chara # 1	Pakistani Rupee	15,000	15,000	+0%
	Chara # 2	Pakistani Rupee	8,000	6,000	-25%
	Khata # 1	Pakistani Rupee	8,000	7,000	-13%
	Khata # 2	Pakistani Rupee	4,000	4,000	0%
	Off- white powder (Batan)	Pakistani Rupee	340,000	345,000	+1%
	White powder (Injection)	Pakistani Rupee	440,000	450,000	+2%
Takhar	Off- white powder (Crystal) - 60%	Pakistani Rupee	140,000	147,000	5%

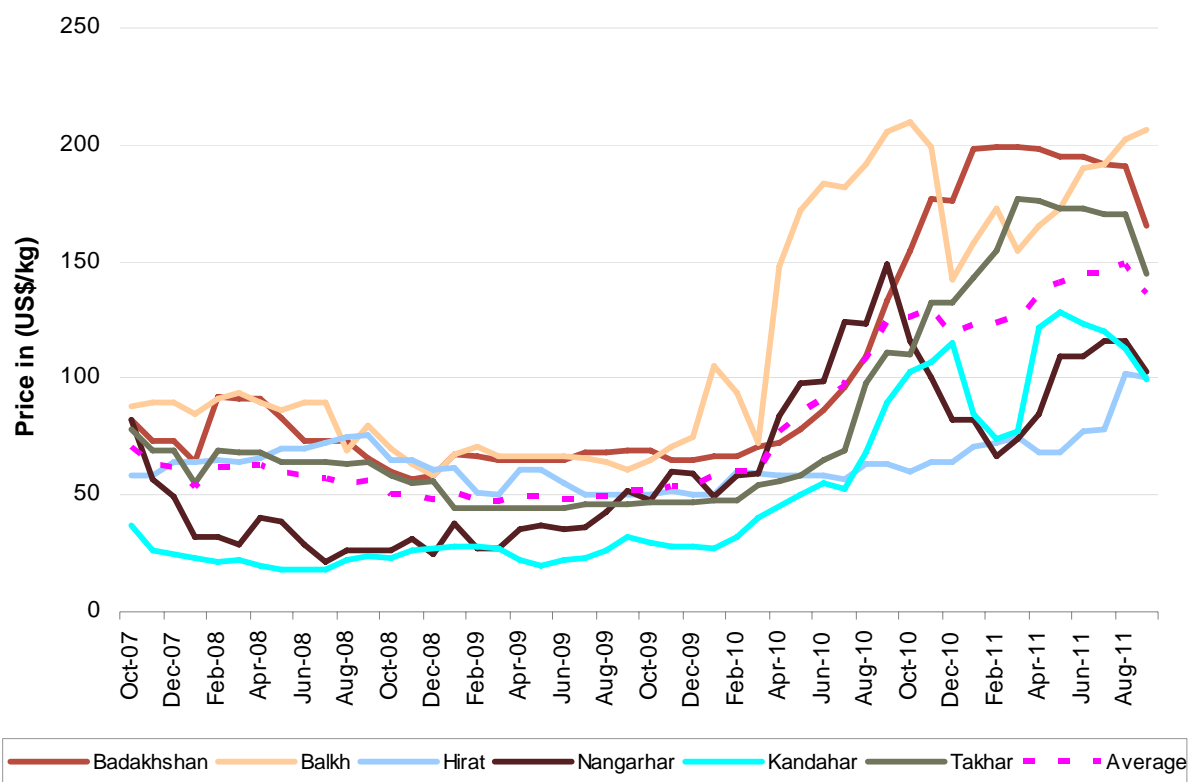
CANNABIS RESIN:

There are mainly three types of cannabis resin available in Afghanistan namely Garda # 1, # 2 and # 3 with quality as best, moderate and fair respectively. Garda # 1 (Jooshi) in Balkh province is the most expensive cannabis resin because of its best quality.

Table 7: Prices of different types of cannabis resin in Afghanistan, (US\$/kg), Sep 2010 - Sep 2011

Province	Types of cannabis resin	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Change (September-August) %
Badakhshan	Garda # 1 (Shirak)	133	155	177	176	198	199	199	198	195	195	192	191	165	-14%
Balkh	Garda # 1 (Jooshi)	206	210	199	142	158	173	155	165	173	190	192	202	206	+2%
	Garda # 2 (Morchajosh)	151	155	143	109	128	137	133	141	151	162	170	181	180	-1%
Hirat	Garda # 1	63	60	64	64	71	72	75	68	68	77	78	102	100	-2%
	Garda # 2	53	51	56	56	62	63	65	59	59	64	70	81	67	-18%
Kandahar	Garda # 1	90	103	107	115	85	74	77	122	128	123	120	113	103	-9%
	Garda # 2	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	84	72	-14%
	Garda # 3	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	52	46	-11%
Nangarhar	Garda # 1	149	116	100	82	82	67	74	85	109	109	116	116	99	-14%
	Garda # 2	91	54	58	57	35	35	34	41	54	54	58	58	58	0%
	Garda # 3	33	29	29	33	12	17	17	12	21	21	25	25	23	-6%
Takhar	Garda # 1 (Shirak)	111	110	132	132	143	155	177	176	173	173	170	170	144	-15%

Graph 5: Average¹⁰ price of cannabis resin (Garda # 1, best quality) in US\$/kg, October 2007 to September 2011



¹⁰ Simple average of all observations

Graph 6: Prices of different types of cannabis resin in Afghanistan, (US\$/kg), September 2011

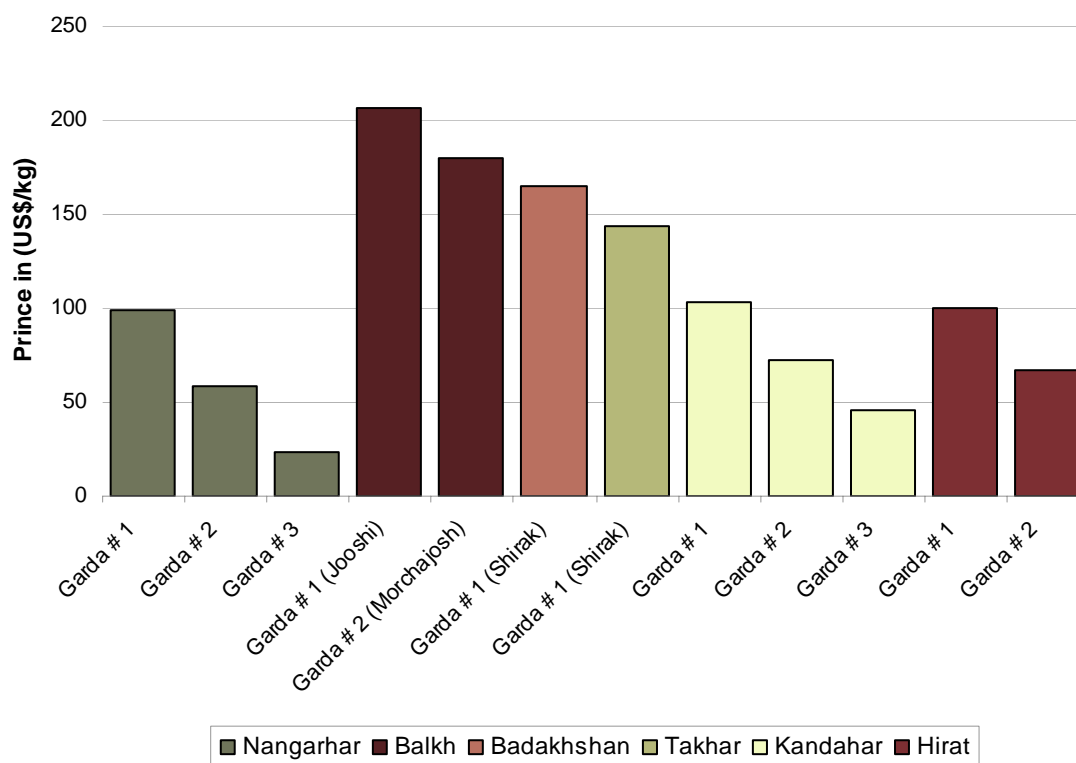


Table 8: Prices of 1 kilogram of different types of cannabis resin in Afghanistan in local currency, August – September 2011

			Prices of 1 kg of different types of cannabis resin in local currency		Change (September-August) %
Province	Types of cannabis resin	Local currency	Aug-11	Sep-11	
Badakhshan	Garda # 1 (Shirak)	Afghani	9,000	8,000	-11%
Balkh	Garda # 1 (Jooshi)	Afghani	9,500	10,000	+5%
	Garda # 2 (Morchajosh)	Afghani	8,500	8,700	+2%
Hirat	Garda # 1	Iranian Tuman	120,000	120,000	+0%
	Garda # 2	Iranian Tuman	95,000	80,000	-16%
Kandahar	Garda # 1	Pakistani Rupee	9,800	8,889	-9%
	Garda # 2	Pakistani Rupee	7,300	6,222	-15%
	Garda # 3	Pakistani Rupee	4,500	4,000	-11%
Nangarhar	Garda # 1	Pakistani Rupee	10,000	8,571	-14%
	Garda # 2	Pakistani Rupee	5,000	5,000	0%
	Garda # 3	Pakistani Rupee	2,142	2,000	-7%
Takhar	Garda # 1 (Shirak)	Afghani	8,000	7,000	-13%

LICIT CROPS:

Prices of wheat, cotton and saffron collected in six provinces of Afghanistan are shown in below tables.

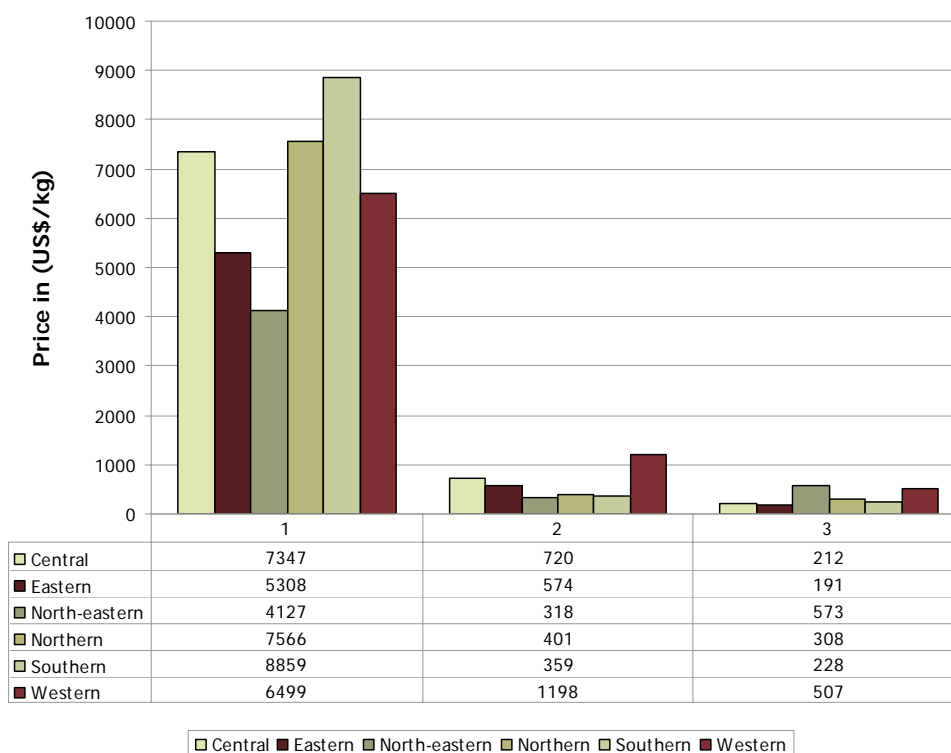
Table 9: Prices of wheat, cotton and saffron in Afghanistan in local currency, September 2011

Province	Types of crops	Price in Pakistani Rupee (PRs)	Price in Afghani (AFs)	Price in (US\$)
Badakhshan	Wheat	-	21	0.43
Balkh	Saffron	-	60	1.24
	Wheat	-	20	0.41
	Cotton	-	80	1.66
Hirat	Wheat	-	80,000	1,659
	Saffron	-	17	0.35
	Cotton	160	-	1.83
Kandahar	Wheat	50	-	0.57
	Cotton	228	-	2.62
Nangarhar	Wheat	31	-	0.36
	Cotton	-	20	0.41
Takhar	Wheat	-	21	0.43

PRICES OF HEROIN, OPIUM AND HASHISH AT CONSUMER LEVEL:

The consumer prices of heroin, opium and hashish collected in different regions of Afghanistan are as below. The quality of product varies in different regions.

Graph 7: Regional average¹¹ prices of heroin, opium and hashish at consumer level in (US\$/Kg)



¹¹ Simple average of all observations

Table 10: Average¹² prices of Heroin, Opium and Hashish at consumer level in Afghanistan, (US\$/kg)

Types of drug	Average prices in (US\$/kg)								
	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11
Heroin	6947	6695	6606	6614	5901	6093	6131	6420	6335
Opium	492	495	491	495	519	518	420	577	636
Hashish	293	298	290	291	302	306	344	340	312

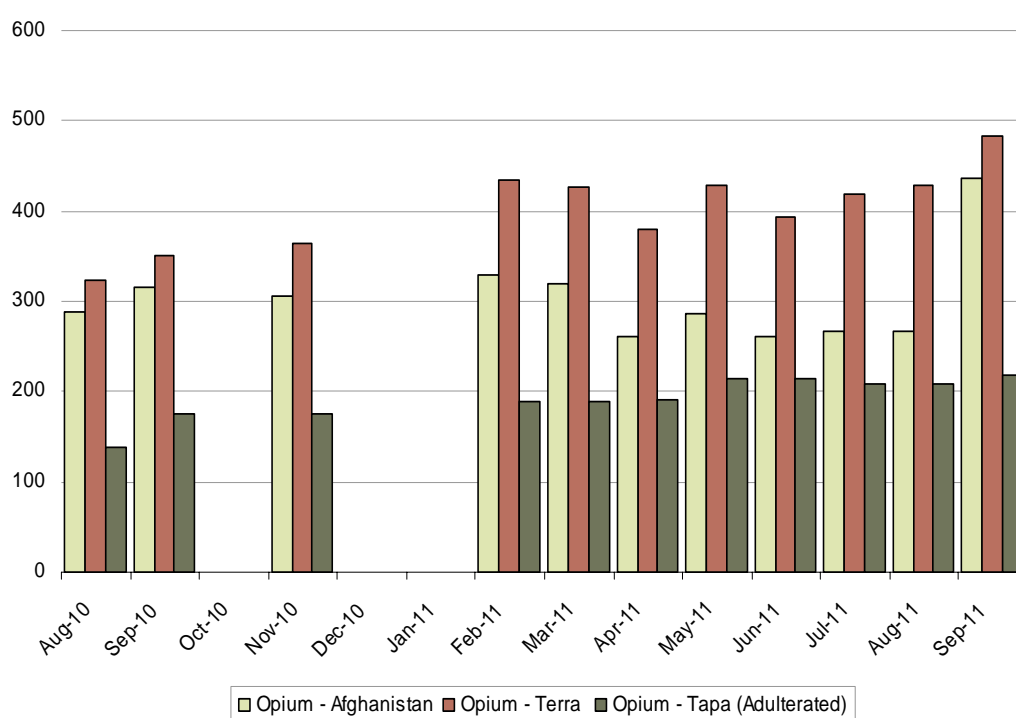
PRICES OF DRUGS IN PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN:

UNODC regional office in Peshawar, Pakistan reported the prices of different types of opium, heroin and hashish.

OPIUM:

There are three types of dry opium namely Opium - Afghanistan (opium of Afghanistan), Opium - Terra and Opium - Tapa (adulterated) available in Peshawar, Pakistan.

Graph 8: Prices of different types of opium in Peshawar, Pakistan in (US\$/kg), Aug 2010 - Sep 2011



Note: Prices for October, December 2010 and January 2011 are not available.

Table 11: Prices of different types of opium in Peshawar, Pakistan in (US\$/Kg):

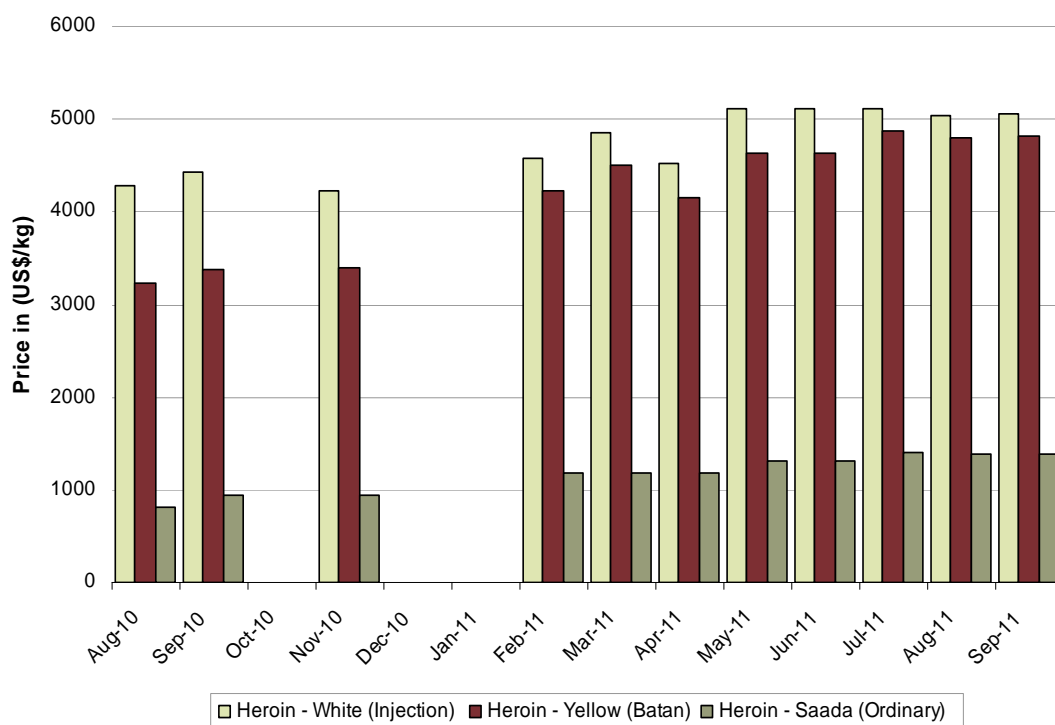
Types of opium	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Change (September-August) %
Opium - Afghanistan	315	na	305	na	na	329	320	261	286	262	267	266	437	+64%
Opium - Terra	350	na	364	na	na	435	427	380	428	393	418	428	483	+13%
Opium - Tapa (adulterated)	175	na	176	na	na	188	190	190	214	214	209	208	218	+5%

¹² Simple average of all observations

HEROIN:

There are three types of heroin namely White (Injection), Yellow (Batan) and Saada (Ordinary) available in Peshawar, Pakistan. White (injection) is the most expensive one.

Graph 9: Prices of different types of heroin in Peshawar, Pakistan in (US\$/kg), Aug 2010 - Sep 2011



Note: Prices for October, December 2010 and January 2011 are not available.

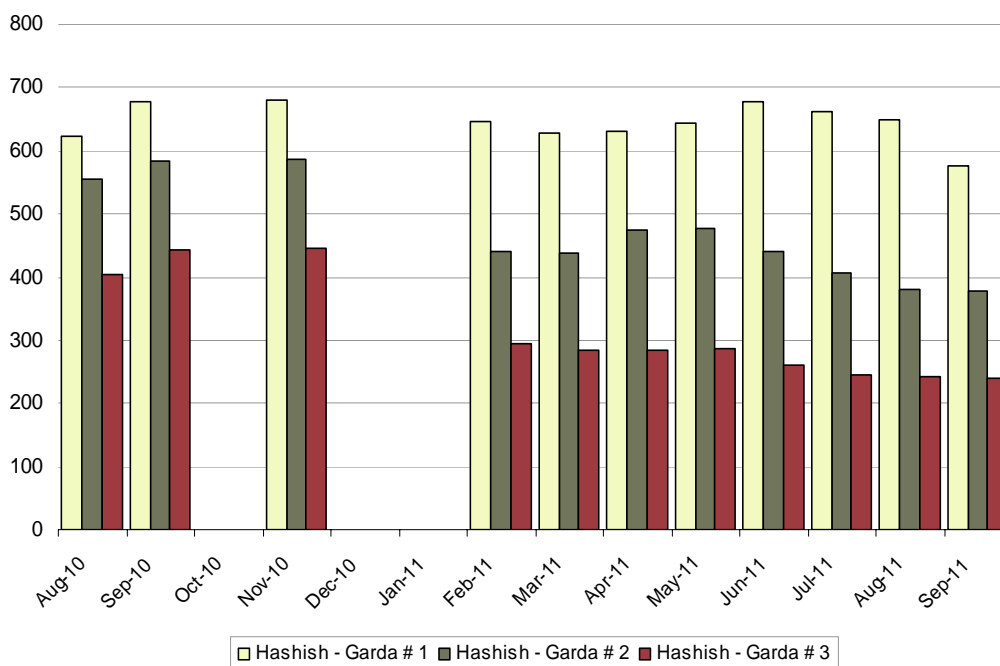
Table 12: Prices of different types of heroin in Peshawar, Pakistan in (US\$/Kg):

Types of heroin	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Change (September-August) %
Heroin - Saada (Ordinary)	934	na	939	na	na	1175	1186	1188	1309	1309	1395	1388	1379	-1%
Heroin - White (Injection)	4437	na	4226	na	na	4582	4863	4516	5115	5115	5114	5031	5057	+1%
Heroin - Yellow (Batan)	3386	na	3404	na	na	4230	4508	4160	4640	4639	4882	4800	4827	+1%

HASHISH:

There are three types of hashish namely Hashish - Garda # 1, # 2 and # 3 available in Peshawar, Pakistan.

Graph 10: Prices of different types of hashish in Peshawar, Pakistan in (US\$/kg), Aug 2010 - Sep 2011



Note: Prices for October, December 2010 and January 2011 are not available.

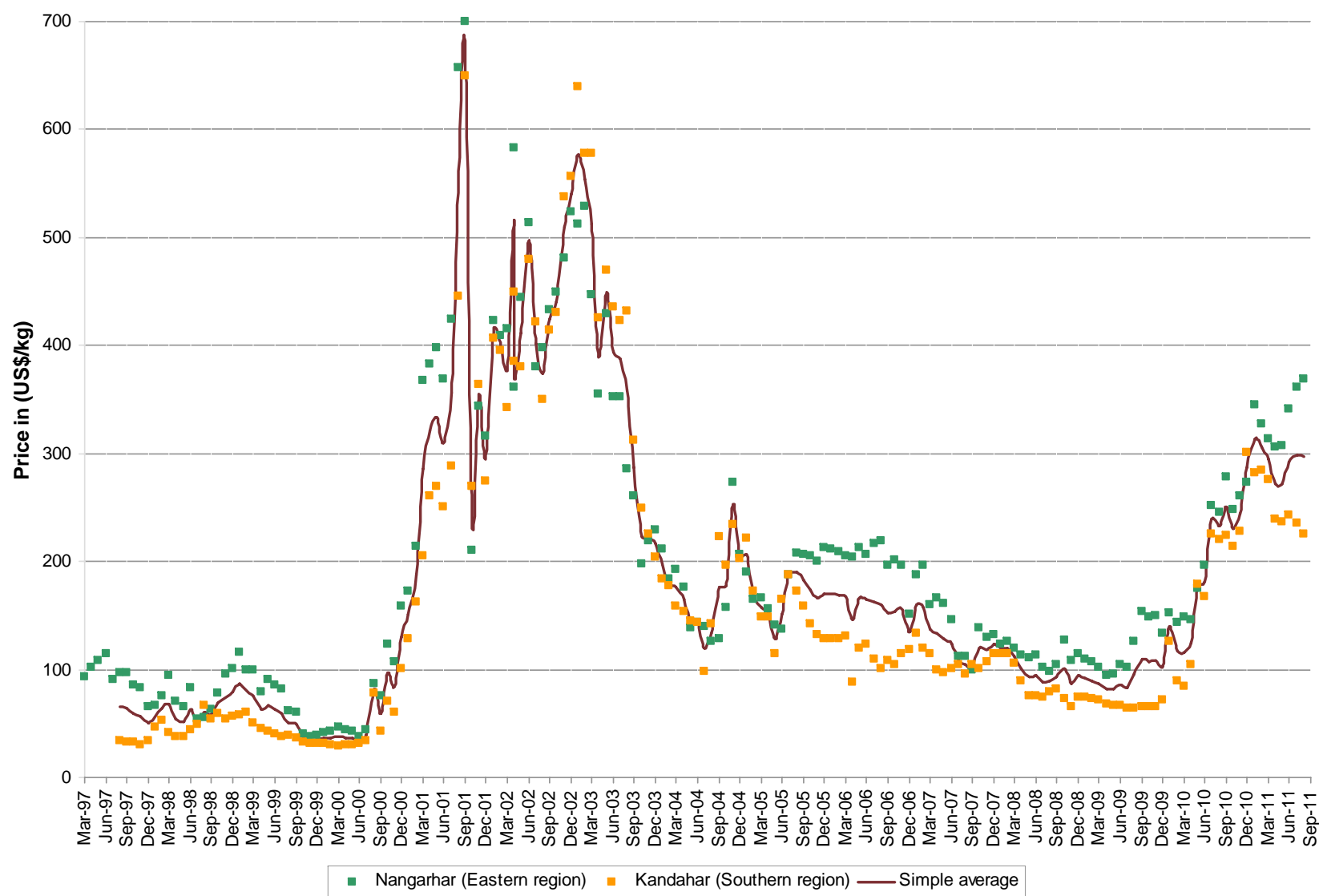
Table 13: Prices of different types of Hashish in Peshawar, Pakistan in (US\$/Kg):

Types of hashish	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Change (September-August) %
Hashish - Garda # 1	677	na	681	na	na	646	629	630	642	678	663	648	575	-11%
Hashish - Garda # 2	584	na	587	na	na	441	439	475	476	440	407	382	379	-1%
Hashish - Garda # 3	444	na	446	na	na	294	285	285	286	262	244	243	241	-1%

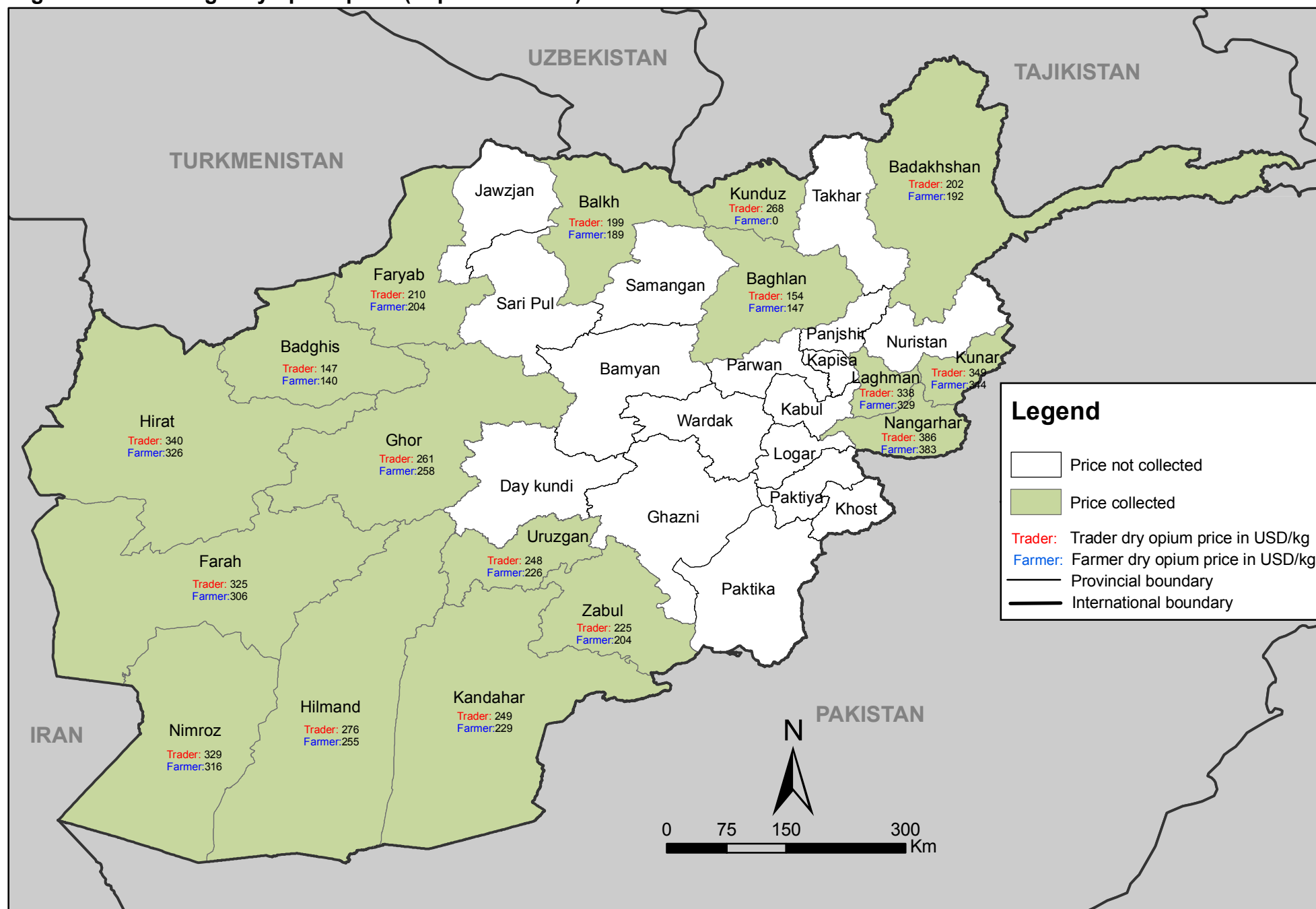
Table 14: Prices of different types of drugs in Peshawar, Pakistan in local currency, (Pak Rupee/kg):

Types of drugs	Price in (Pakistani Rupee)/kg		
	Aug-11	Sep-11	Change (September-August) %
Opium -Afghanistan	23,000	38,000	+65%
Opium -Tapa (Adulterated)	18,000	19,000	+6%
Opium -Terra	37,000	42,000	+14%
Heroin -White (Injection)	435,000	440,000	+1%
Heroin -Yellow (Batan)	415,000	420,000	+1%
Heroin -Saada (Ordinary)	120,000	120,000	0%
Hashish -Garda # 1	56,000	50,000	-11%
Hashish -Garda # 2	33,000	33,000	0%
Hashish -Garda # 3	21,000	21,000	0%

Graph 11: Average price of dry opium collected from traders in Nangarhar and Kandahar provinces (US\$/Kg), March 1997 – September 2011



Afghanistan: Average dry opium price (September 2011)



Source: Government of Afghanistan - National monitoring system implemented by MCN / UNODC

Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Regional grouping of provinces for the opium poppy survey in Afghanistan



Source: Government of Afghanistan - National monitoring system implemented by UNODC

Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.