

Food Prices Must Fall

Addressing food affordability to Ensure
Nutritional Security



AMANDLA **MOBI**
action for mzansi



INCREASE ALL SOCIAL GRANTS

WHY MUST PEOPLE STARVE BECAUSE OF YOUR FAILURE

DON'T COME TO US BEFORE ELECTIONS: AD NOW!

INCREASE TAX ON SUNDAY TRADING

grant BIG NOW!

Solve inequality TAX THE RICH

STOP GODONGWU'S COSTS

GODONGWU'S COSTS AN R300K FOR

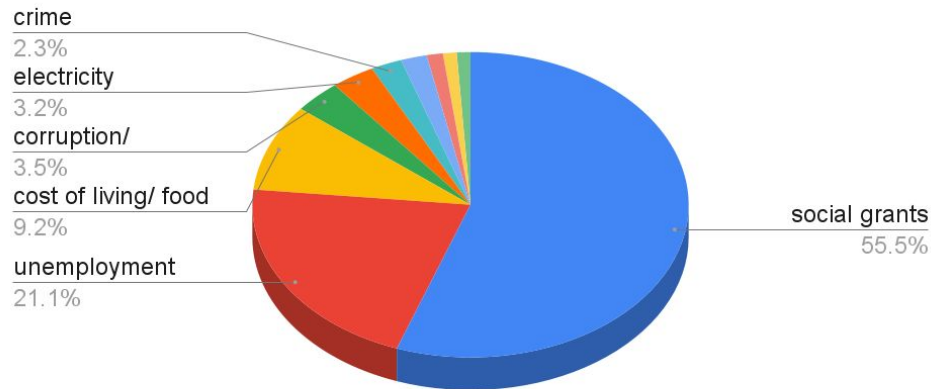
AMANDLA action for mzansi

FIX

What our members are saying about food prices right now?

Many amandla.mobi members have said these food items have gone up in price the most.

What issues should amandla.mobi prioritise?



bread
rice
maizemeal
meat
oil
eggs
vegetables



Our members share their experiences

The moment I saw the 5kg maize meal priced to be around R50, I realised prices have gone up for real. It is difficult for families surviving on the grant only. You'll also find that people live with family. How will they survive since we don't even have jobs?

- Nondumiso

AMANDLA
action for mzansi

*Slightly edited for brevity and clarity

Food prices are too high in a way that R1000 groceries is no longer enough food for a family of two, when you think you covered all during the month you will lack things like bread and other basic food.

- Semakaleng

AMANDLA
action for mzansi

*Slightly edited for brevity and clarity

What are mothers saying?

It is really difficult especially when you are unemployed and have children and living on the grant, it is very unfair for food prices to be so high that you can't afford to buy basic things.

- Gadifele

The change in prices of food is too much they increased everything too much. Imagine now you get 750ml cooking oil with R30 which is still small for a person staying with family

- Phindile

What are people across the country saying about food prices?

News

'I must choose between buying food or electricity'

By Mpho Koka | 30th September 2024



Statistics South Africa's national poverty lines for 2024 show that at the food poverty line, a person needs R796 per month to survive. / Gallo Images

BUSINESS ADVICE

South Africans are compromising on health for affordability amid food price hikes



NEWS

Food inflation means R530 child support grant not enough to feed a child for a month

"Our data shows that the poverty line, while it's a useful index, has also not kept pace with inflation and reality in general," says the PMBJED

21 July 2024 - 21:36



Gill Gifford

Senior journalist



Maternity Benefit Grant

[CAMPAIGNS](#)[ABOUT](#)[CONTACT US](#)[LATEST NEWS](#)

A Maternity Support Grant to save Mzansi children from stunted growth



Photo Credit: Insider.com



Add your name to the campaign



Call for an extension of the Child Support Grant into pregnancy as a Maternity Support Grant

Update: The Department of Social Development replied in January 2020 to one of our tweets that the maternity support grant is under discussion and public comments were being finalised. We will keep you updated as the campaign progresses.

7,506 of 10,000 signatures

First name:

Last name:

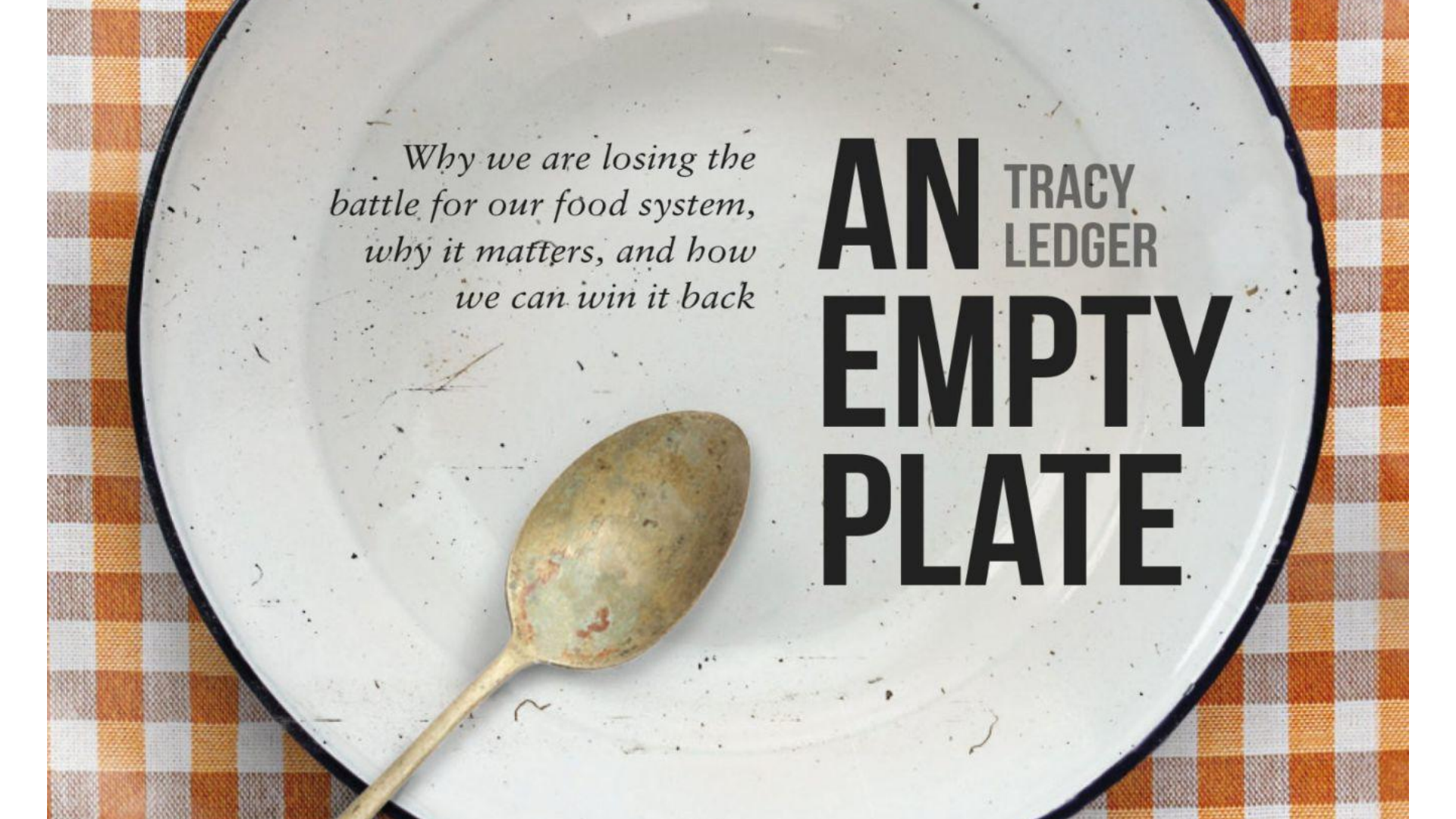
Your email:

Province:

☐ Yes. Keep me up to date with this campaign and others via email

Sign the petition

A quarter of children in Mzansi suffer from stunting, which is caused by not eating enough nutritious food during pregnancy and the early years of life. But we could change this if enough of us come together and call for an extension of the Child Support Grant into pregnancy.



*Why we are losing the
battle for our food system,
why it matters, and how
we can win it back*

AN TRACY
LEDGER
**EMPTY
PLATE**

Farm price



R17
a dozen

Photo credit: Gallo Images / Foto24 / Denzil Maregele

Source: SA Poultry Report 2H 2021

Supermarket price



R35
a dozen

Photo credit: Business Tech

Why such a big price difference?

Are food price increases justified?

COVID-19

Load-shedding

Conflict

Avian flu

Drought and extreme
weather

Fuel price

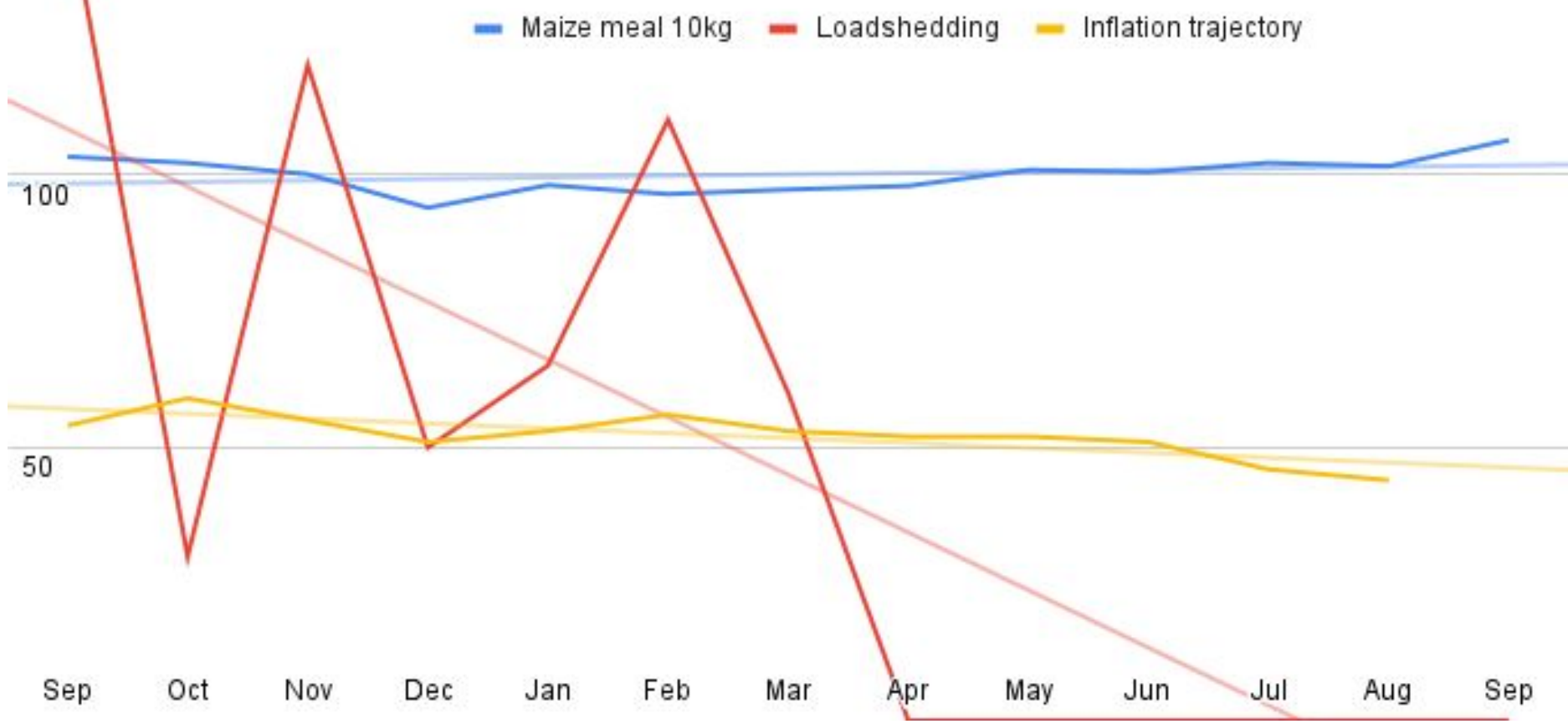
Cost of Living Crisis: Load shedding's stranglehold on food prices



The Competition Commission's Essential Food Price Monitoring Report has revealed the significant impact of load shedding on the food value chain, exacerbating the cost of living crisis for millions. Picture: David Ritchie

Published Sep 14, 2023

Maize meal price trend vs loadshedding & inflation



Source: Rough comparison by amandla.mobi, comparing PMBEJD Household Affordability Index data and Eskom se Push TWh trajectory

Loadshedding Is not an excuse

NESS TALK
LIFESTYLE

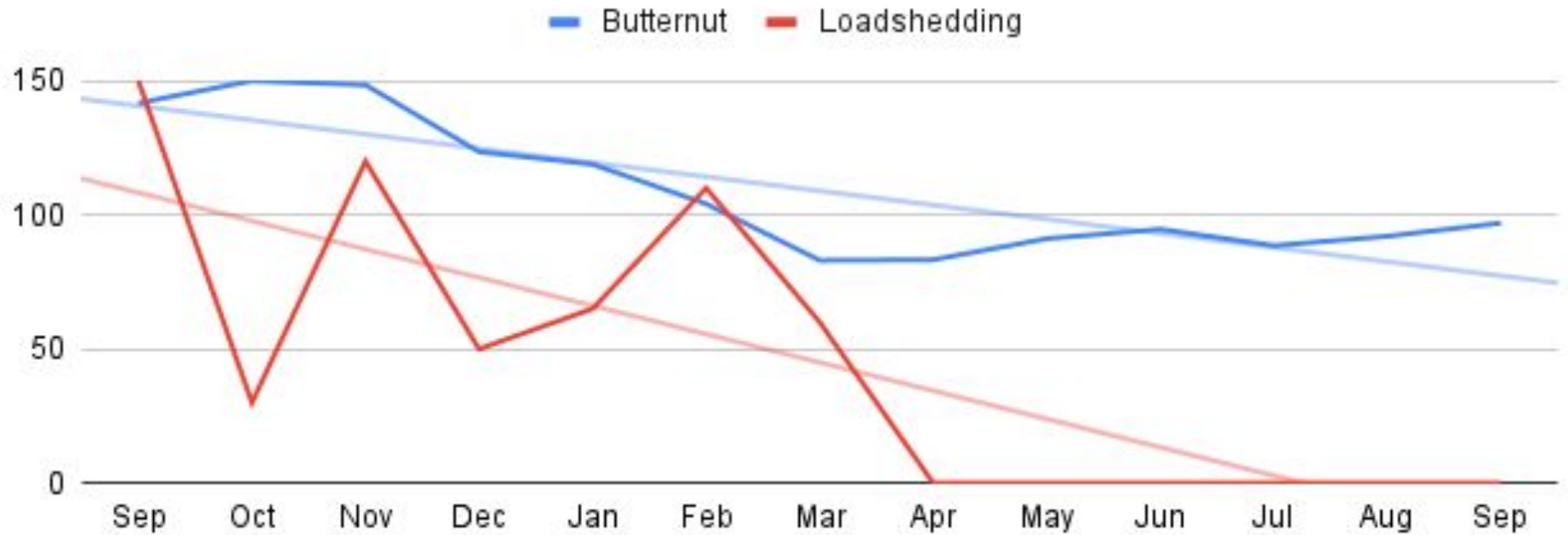
BUSINESSTECH

BUSINESS FINANCE ENERGY MOTORING INDUSTRY NEWS PROPERTY TREI

Retailers in South Africa under fire for high food prices – load shedding is no excuse



Butternut and Loadshedding



Source: Rough comparison by amandla.mobi, comparing PMBEJD Household Affordability Index data and Eskom se Push TWh trajectory

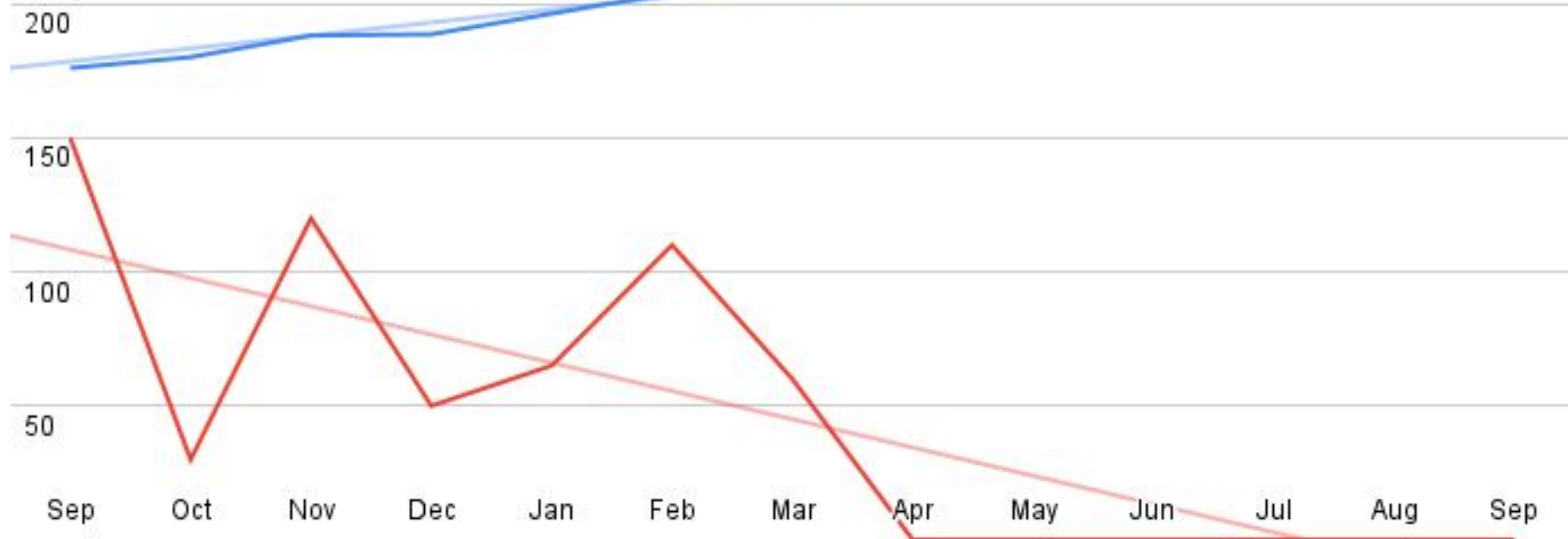
Are you worried big businesses might be using issues like load shedding as an excuse to unfairly increase some of their prices?

Not all food products are stored in refrigerators, so load-shedding is not an excuse.

-Tembelihle

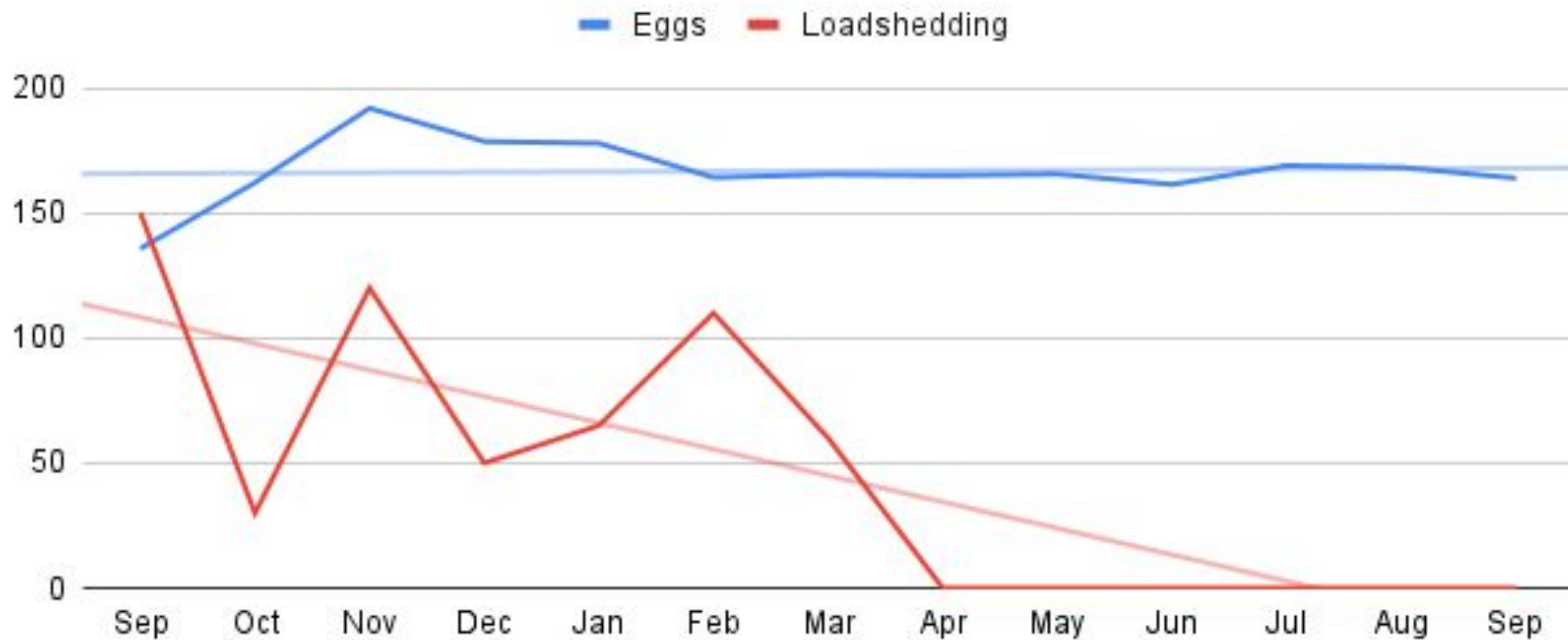
Sugar beans and Loadshedding

Sugar beans Loadshedding



Source: Rough comparison by amandla.mobi, comparing PMBEJD Household Affordability Index data and Eskom se Push TWh trajectory

Eggs and Loadshedding



Source: Rough comparison by amandla.mobi, comparing PMBEJD Household Affordability Index data and Eskom se Push TWh trajectory

FOOD PRICES GO UP BUT ARE VERY SLOW TO COME DOWN

🕒 06 Oct

Share



Retailers not cutting food prices fast enough - especially eggs, competition watchdog warns

Nick Wilson

news24

💬 Comments

🔖 Bookmark



Listen to this article

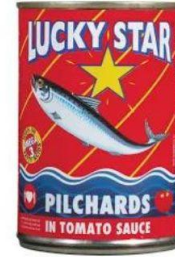
0:00

🔊 SUBSCRIBERS CAN LISTEN TO THIS ARTICLE



(Catherine Leblanc/Getty Images)

- Retailers still appear slow in cutting the prices of crucial products such as cooking oil and eggs even as producer costs are coming down, says the Competition Commission.
- In its latest report on essential food pricing, the commission raised concerns that retailers are looking to capitalise on the wider margins of core products, such as oil.





Food Prices Must Fall

[UPDATE] Good news! The Competition Commission announced in March 2023 that they are investigating the prices of essential food products. Loadshedding, the conflict in Ukraine and other issues have impacted food prices. However, the Competition Commission is still concerned that some price increases are not justified and are looking at sunflower oil, white and brown bread, and maize meal [1]. The Competition Commission touched a nerve within big business, with the CEO of Pick n Pay attacking the Commission. This is the same Pick n Pay who were price gouging garlic and ginger at the height of Covid-19 [2]. Big businesses must open their books to show us they are not using a crisis like load-shedding as an excuse to increase prices, similar to how some businesses used Covid-19 to profiteer [3]. Now is not the time to be profiteering. People are

17,822 of 50,000 signatures

First name:

Last name:

Your email:

Province:

☐ Yes. Keep me up to date with this campaign and others via email

Sign the petition

Are we going hungry because supermarkets are overcharging us? Supermarkets buy from farmers and sell to us for a profit, but the difference in price is often really big. If supermarkets have nothing to hide they can easily open their books so we can see if prices are fair. Just like we did with data prices; if enough of us come together, supermarkets will have to explain themselves.

CAMPAIGNS



Search



PETITION 101

START AN EVENT

+ START A CAMPAIGN

LOG IN

To: President Ramaphosa, Finance Minister Mbweni and Social Development Minister Zulu

Bring back + increase R350 SRD grant until it's turned into Basic Income Support

65,885 of 75,000 signatures

Kirsten signed 2024-09-11 Anathi signed 2024-09-08 Lefu signed 2024-09-04

Sign the petition

First Name *

Last Name *

Email *

Province

Phone Number

☐ Yes. Keep me up to date with this campaign and others via email



Latest campaign update The R350 grant was increased by R20 effective April 2024, and has been extended to March 2025. This is a step in the right direction and shows that those in power are feeling the pressure from our constant petitions, submissions and protests. The reality is that a R20 increase is nowhere near enough, considering the high food prices and the cost of living. But we can build on this momentum. We must never give up!

Campaign update The R350 grant has been extended until April 2024.



Search



PETITION 101

START AN EVENT

+ START A CAMPAIGN

LOG IN

To: Department of Social Development and Department of Basic Education

Tell DSD and DBE to pay school food handlers their R3050 minimum wage

323 of 400 signatures

Sign the petition

First Name *

Last Name *

Email *

Province

Phone Number

☐ Yes. Keep me up to date with this campaign and others via email

SIGN



*Campaign update: Food handlers have received an increase of only R100 so far.

I work for a school in the Gauteng region and I am a volunteer food handler. I cook for approximately 450 children. We peel vegetables, cut up big bags of cabbages, dish up and wash the dishes and big pots. This is a contract job we get hired into because our children are also enrolled in the same schools. The problem is that we are paid too little.



Tell new Social Development Minister Nokuzola Tolase to fix & increase the R370 grant

500 signatures required

365 SIGNATURES

SIGN NOW

To: Finance Minister Godongwana

Help increase child support grant by raising the Health Promotion Levy

Campaign created by HEALA



The Child Support Grant has not kept up with rising food prices, and so many children and families go hungry.

© 2024 HEALA. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced without prior written permission from HEALA.



Food Prices Must Fall

[UPDATE] Good news! The Competition Commission announced in March 2023 that they are investigating the prices of essential food products. Loadshedding, the conflict in Ukraine and other issues have impacted food prices. However, the Competition Commission is still concerned that some price increases are not justified and are looking at sunflower oil, white and brown bread, and maize meal [1]. The Competition Commission touched a nerve within big business, with the CEO of Pick n Pay attacking the Commission. This is the same Pick n Pay who were price gouging garlic and ginger at the height of Covid-19 [2]. Big businesses must open their books to show us they are not using a crisis like load-shedding as an excuse to increase prices, similar to how some businesses used Covid-19 to profiteer [3]. Now is not the time to be profiteering. People are hungry!



Search



PETITION 101

START AN EVENT

+ START A CAMPAIGN

LOG IN

To: Government Ministers, DGs, MPs and all other public servants and elected officials.

Stop closed door meetings between government and big business

Campaign created by amandla mobi member



The people, not profit, should govern. But some big businesses have used their power to influence decisions. From wine and dining [1] to bullying, we have seen how some big businesses have tried to stop or delay taxes [2] [3], better wages for workers [4] and cheaper medication [5].

We, the undersigned, call on you to agree to the following demands:

- Publicly commit to transparency by disclosing all meetings, events,

17,822 of 50,000 signatures

First name:

Last name:

Your email:

qwerty@mail.com

Province:

☐ Yes. Keep me up to date with this campaign and others via email

SIGN the petition

Are we going hungry because supermarkets are overcharging us? Supermarkets buy from farmers and sell to us for a profit, but the difference in price is often really big. If supermarkets have nothing to hide they can easily open their books so we can see if prices are fair, just like we did with data prices; if enough of us come together, supermarkets will have to explain themselves.

8,395 of 9,000 signatures

Luto signed 2024-07-18 Puleng signed 2024-07-17 Sphele signed 2024-07-17

Sign the petition

First Name *

Last Name *

Email *

Province

Phone Number

☐ Yes. Keep me up to date with this campaign and others via email

SIGN

What does this mean for Nutrition Security especially for our children?



- Extending the Child Support Grant to a maternity benefit grant will improve Mzansi's food system, especially for our children.**
- We can fund the extension of the Child Support Grant by taxing the rich. Treasury must increase Personal Income Tax for those earning over R1 million annually.**
- Let's put our children first!**

Thank you!



AMANDLA **MOBI**
action for mzansi