

Market Slows, Cautious Outlook For January

Although business was good in the first half of December, the last two weeks of the month saw a dramatic decline in domestic and international demand because of the end of the buying season for weddings and Christmas.

The scarcity of most goods and higher asking prices also contributed to the slowdown in activity in the second half of the month. Frequent increases in rough diamond prices have pushed polished asking prices higher and as a result, traders are very cautious about the outlook for January.

Market data as of 30/12/09

SIZE / CTS. (SIEVE)	Current Demand	Demand In 2 Weeks	Current Availability	Availability In 2 Weeks	Price Change In 2 Weeks	Comments
-0.01 (-2)	VERYGOOD	↓	SHORTAGE	↔	↑ 2%-3%	Very good demand for -\$300 whites. Good demand for +\$300 whites. Fair demand for \$150-\$300 OWTTLTLC.
-0.02 (+2-6.5)	GOOD	↓	SHORTAGE	↔	↑ 1%-2%	Good demand for -\$350 whites. Fair demand for \$150-\$300 OWTTLTLC
0.03-0.07 (+6.5-11)	VERYGOOD	↔	SHORTAGE	↔	↑ 2%-3%	Very good demand for -\$300 whites. Good demand for +\$300 whites. Fair demand for \$150-\$300 OWTTLTLC. Most required sieve is +8.
0.08-0.14 (+11-14)	VERYGOOD	↓	SHORTAGE	↔	↑ 2%-3%	Very good demand for -\$400 whites. Good demand for +\$600 whites.
0.15-0.17 (+14-15.5)	VERYGOOD	↓	SHORTAGE	↔	↑ 2%-3%	Very good demand for -\$400 whites. Good demand for +\$650 whites.
0.18-0.22	FAIR	↔	SHORTAGE	↔	↔	Fair demand for +\$650 whites.
0.23-0.29	FAIR	↔	SHORTAGE	↔	↔	Fair demand for +\$750 whites.
0.30	GOOD	↓	SHORTAGE	↔	↔	Good demand for I2/I3&VS+/J+.
0.50	GOOD	↓	SHORTAGE	↔	↑ 1%-2%	Good demand for I1+/J+.
0.75	GOOD	↓	SHORTAGE	↔	↑ 1%-2%	Good demand for VS+& I2-I3/ J+. Shortages for +0.80 cts.
1.00	VERYGOOD	↔	SHORTAGE	↔	↑ 2%-3%	Very good demand for VS+/ J+. Good demand for SI-I2/K+.
2.00	GOOD	↓	SHORTAGE	↔	↑ 1%-2%	Fair demand for VS2+/ J+.

+3.00	FAIR	↔	FAIR	↔	↔	Fair demand for 3.00cts VS2+/ J+.
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Key: ↑ ↔ ↓ Indicates change in status (increase, no change, decrease). Colored arrows indicate whether the change (or none) means goods will be easily **Available**, in **Fair** availability, or in **Shortage**.