




THE KENYA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AND INFLATION REPORT

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Overview

Annual consumer price inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 4.4 per cent in January 2026. The slower increase in inflation in January 2026 (4.4 per cent), compared to December 2025 (4.5 per cent), was partly attributable to base effects, reflecting relatively higher price levels in the corresponding period of the previous year. The price increase was primarily driven by a rise in prices of items in the Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (7.3%); Transport (4.8 %), and Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other fuels (2.2%) over the one-year period. These three divisions together account for over 57 per cent of the total weight across the 13 major expenditure categories.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) is defined as a measure of the weighted aggregate change over time in retail prices paid by consumers for a given basket of goods and services. The CPI measures the cost of purchasing this fixed basket of goods and services, comparing current prices to those of a base period, which for the current CPI is February 2019. Inflation rate is defined as a percentage change of the CPI between two periods. There are different inflation rates that can be computed, such as annual (year-on-year), quarterly (quarter-to-quarter) and monthly (month-on-month) inflation rates. Data used to derive the inflation rates is collected through a monthly survey of retail prices from a statistically representative sample of outlets in urban areas across 50 data collection zones nationwide. The survey is conducted during the second and third weeks of the month.

The Overall CPI and Inflation Trends, January 2025 - January 2026

As presented in Figure 1, the overall index increased from 148.02 in December 2025 to 148.96 in January 2026, resulting in a monthly inflation rate of 0.6 per cent. The year-on-year inflation stood at 4.4 per cent in January 2026 as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 1: Overall CPI January 2025 – January 2026

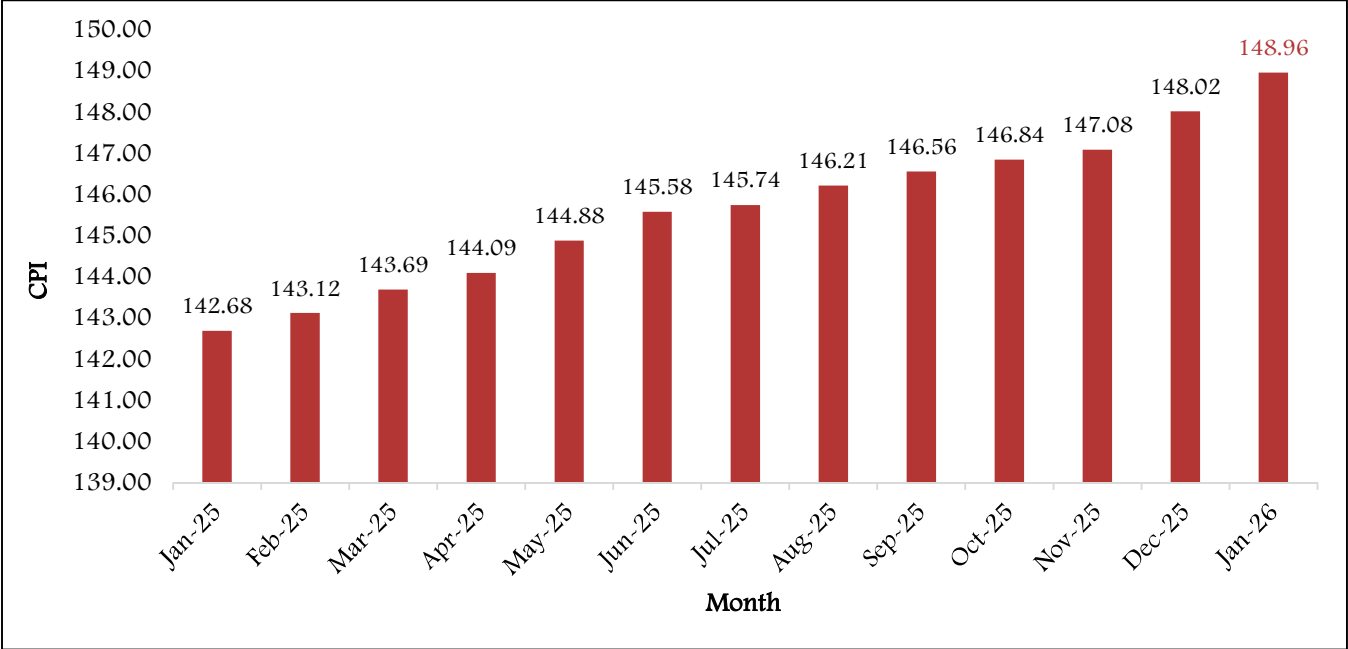


Figure 2: Inflation Trends, January 2025 – January 2026

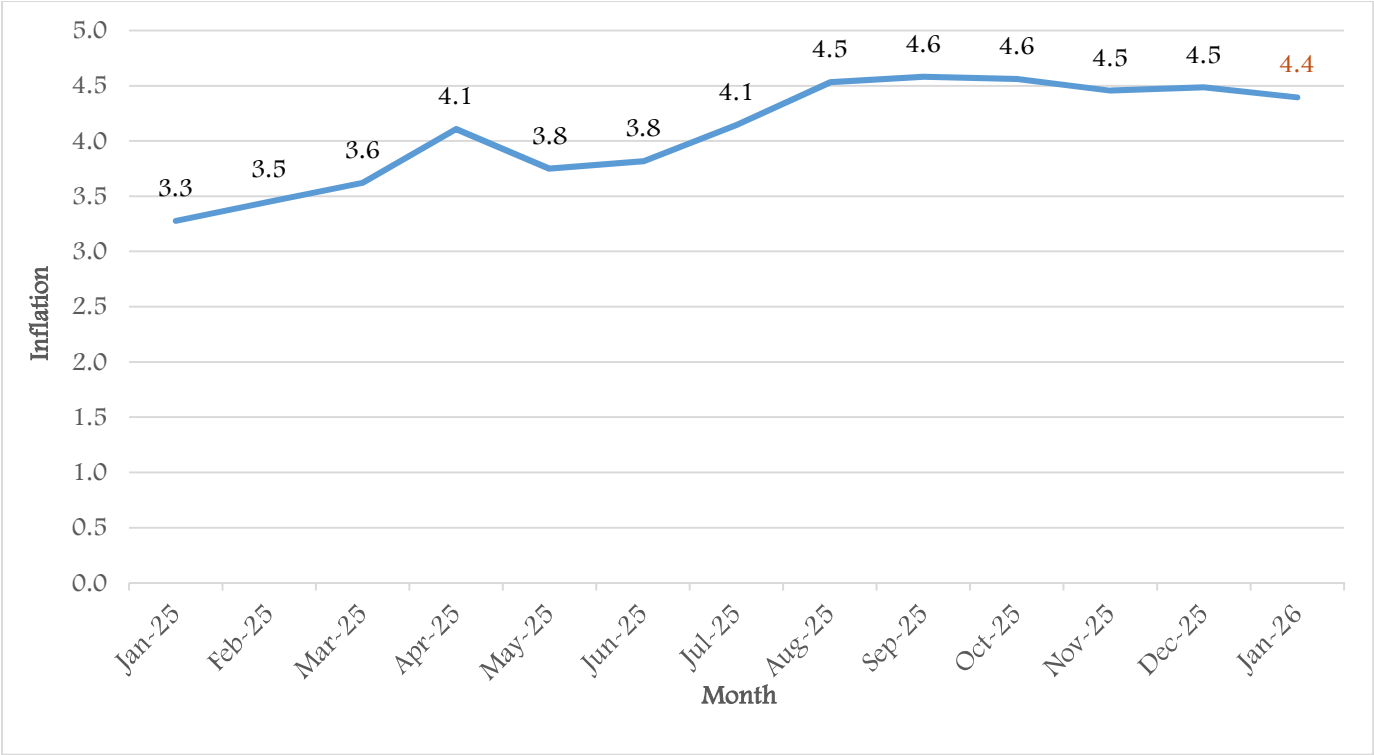


Table 1: One and Twelve-Month Percentage Changes in the Consumer Price Indices

13 COICOP Divisions	Weight %	% Change on last month (January 2026/December 2025)	% Change on same month of the previous year (January 2026 / January 2025)
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	32.9094	1.1	7.3
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	3.3289	0.5	3.0
Clothing and Footwear	2.9914	0.5	2.0
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	14.6124	0.7	2.2
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	3.7372	0.2	1.5
Health	2.9116	0.6	2.7
Transport	9.6468	-0.7	4.8
Information and Communication	7.7840	0.0	0.5
Recreation, Sport and Culture	1.7219	0.6	2.5
Education Services	5.5620	2.1	2.7
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	8.0991	0.4	2.4
Insurance and Financial Services	2.2423	0.5	0.6
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.4532	0.2	2.5
Total	100.0000	0.6	4.4

Figure 3: Percentage Changes in CPI Across the 13 Divisions, December 2025 – January 2026

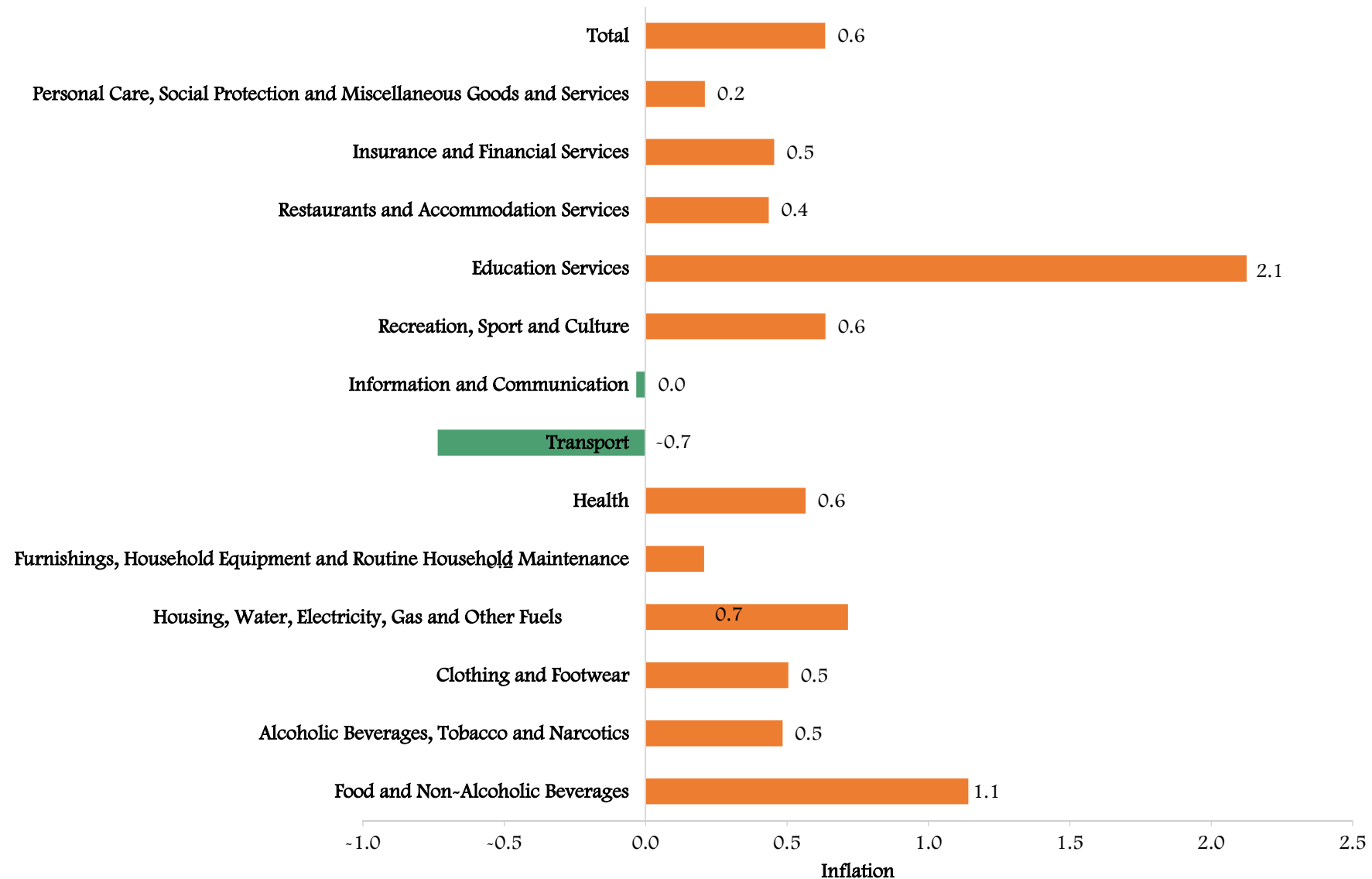




























Figure 4: Percentage Changes in CPI Across the 13 Divisions, January 2025 – January 2026



Table 2: Key Drivers of Inflation for each of the 13 Divisions

Monthly		Yearly
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages		
 1.1%	<p>Between December 2025 and January 2026, price movements across selected food items were mixed, with notable declines and increases recorded. Prices of sugar, mangoes and cooking oil (salad) declined by 3.0, 3.2 and 0.1 per cent, respectively. In contrast, prices of cabbages, fortified maize flour, kale (sukuma wiki) and Irish potatoes increased by 9.3, 6.7, 4.0 and 3.4 per cent, respectively.</p>	 7.3% <p>Over the twelve months until January 2026, the Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages division index rose by 7.3%.</p>
Transport		
 -0.7%	<p>During the period between December 2025 and January 2026, prices of transport-related items showed mixed trends. Country bus and matatu fares for travel between towns decreased by 1.9 per cent. In addition prices for petrol and diesel decreased by 1.1 per cent and 0.6 per cent, respectively.</p>	 4.8% <p>Over the twelve months until January 2026, the index for the Transport division rose by 4.8 per cent.</p>
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels		
 0.7%	<p>Electricity price increased by 3.7 per cent and 3.4 per cent for 50 kWh and 200 kWh, respectively between December 2025 and January 2026. However, price of kerosene dropped by 0.6 per cent during the same period.</p>	 2.2% <p>Over the twelve months until January 2026, the general price levels for the division rose by 2.2 per cent.</p>
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics		
 0.5%	<p>Between December 2025 and January 2026, miraa, beer and spirits rose by 1.6, 0.3 and 0.5 per cent, respectively.</p>	 3.0% <p>Over the twelve months until January 2026, the Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics index rose by 3.0%.</p>
Clothing and Footwear		
 0.5%	<p>Between December and January 2026, prices women's leather shoes decreased by 0.2 per cent, however, prices for boy's school uniform and girls' school uniform rose by 1.8 per cent and 4.8 per cent, respectively.</p>	 2.0% <p>Over the twelve months until January 2026, the prices under Clothing and Footwear division rose by 2.0%.</p>
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance		
 0.2%	<p>Between December 2025 and January 2026, prices for selected household goods and services recorded modest changes. The price of dish washing paste/liquid declined slightly by 0.3 per cent. On the other hand, prices for gardening services, laundry soap/bar soap, and domestic servants increased by 0.6 per cent, 0.5 per cent, and 0.6 per cent, respectively during the period.</p>	 1.5% <p>Over the twelve months until January 2026, the prices under Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance division rose by 1.5%.</p>
Health		
 0.6%	<p>Between December 2025 and January 2026 prices of medicine for cancer, spectacles/spectacle frames/contact lenses, and X-rays/scans declined by 2.0 per cent, 0.6 per cent, and 0.2 per cent, respectively. Conversely, prices of medicines for diabetes and laboratory tests each increased by 0.9 per cent, while general practitioner's services rose by 0.7 per cent during the period.</p>	 2.7% <p>Over the twelve months until January 2026, the Health division index rose by 2.7%.</p>

Monthly		Yearly
Information and Communication		
 0.03%	<p>Between December 2025 and January 2026, prices of mobile handsets (basic/smartphones) and televisions each decreased by 0.3 per cent, while internet costs declined by 0.2 per cent. In addition, television subscription fees (such as DSTV) fell by 0.1 per cent. In contrast, the price of computers (laptops) increased slightly by 0.2 per cent over the period.</p>	 0.5% <p>The sector recorded a yearly inflation of 0.5%.</p>
Recreation, Sport and Culture		
 0.6%	<p>Between December 2025 and January 2026, prices of exercise books rose by 0.1 per cent. In contrast, prices of school textbooks increased with tertiary-level textbooks rising by 2.0 per cent, while secondary and pre-primary and primary textbooks each increased by 1.4 per cent.</p>	 2.5% <p>Over the twelve months until January 2026, the Recreation, Sport and Culture division index went up by 2.5%.</p>
Education Services		
 2.1%	<p>Between December 2025 and January 2026, tuition fees for pre-primary tuition rose by 3.3 per cent, while private primary tuition increased by 2.7 per cent. Similarly, private secondary tuition went up by 3.1 per cent.</p>	 2.7% <p>Over the twelve months until January 2026, the index for the Education division increased by 2.7%.</p>
Restaurants and Accommodation Services		
 0.4%	<p>Between December 2025 and January 2026, prices for post-secondary school boarding fees rose by 2.7 per cent, while both primary and secondary school boarding fees increased by 1.6 per cent each. In addition, prices of café and take-away prepared food increased by 0.3 per cent over the period.</p>	 2.4% <p>Over the twelve months until January 2026, the index for the Restaurants and Accommodation Services division rose by 2.4%.</p>
Insurance and Financial Services		
 0.5%	<p>The price of motor vehicle insurance and medical insurance increased by 0.4 per cent and 1.0 per cent, respectively, between December 2025 and January 2026.</p>	 0.6% <p>Over the twelve months until January 2026, the prices under Insurance and Financial Services division went up by 0.6%.</p>
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods and Services		
 0.2%	<p>Between December 2025 and January 2026, prices of toilet soap declined by 0.3 per cent. In contrast, prices of tooth paste/mouth wash and hair dressing services each increased by 0.4 per cent, while toilet paper/tissue paper rose by 1.5 per cent during the period.</p>	 2.5% <p>Over the twelve months until January 2026, the index for the Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods and Services division increased by 2.5%.</p>

Movement of National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

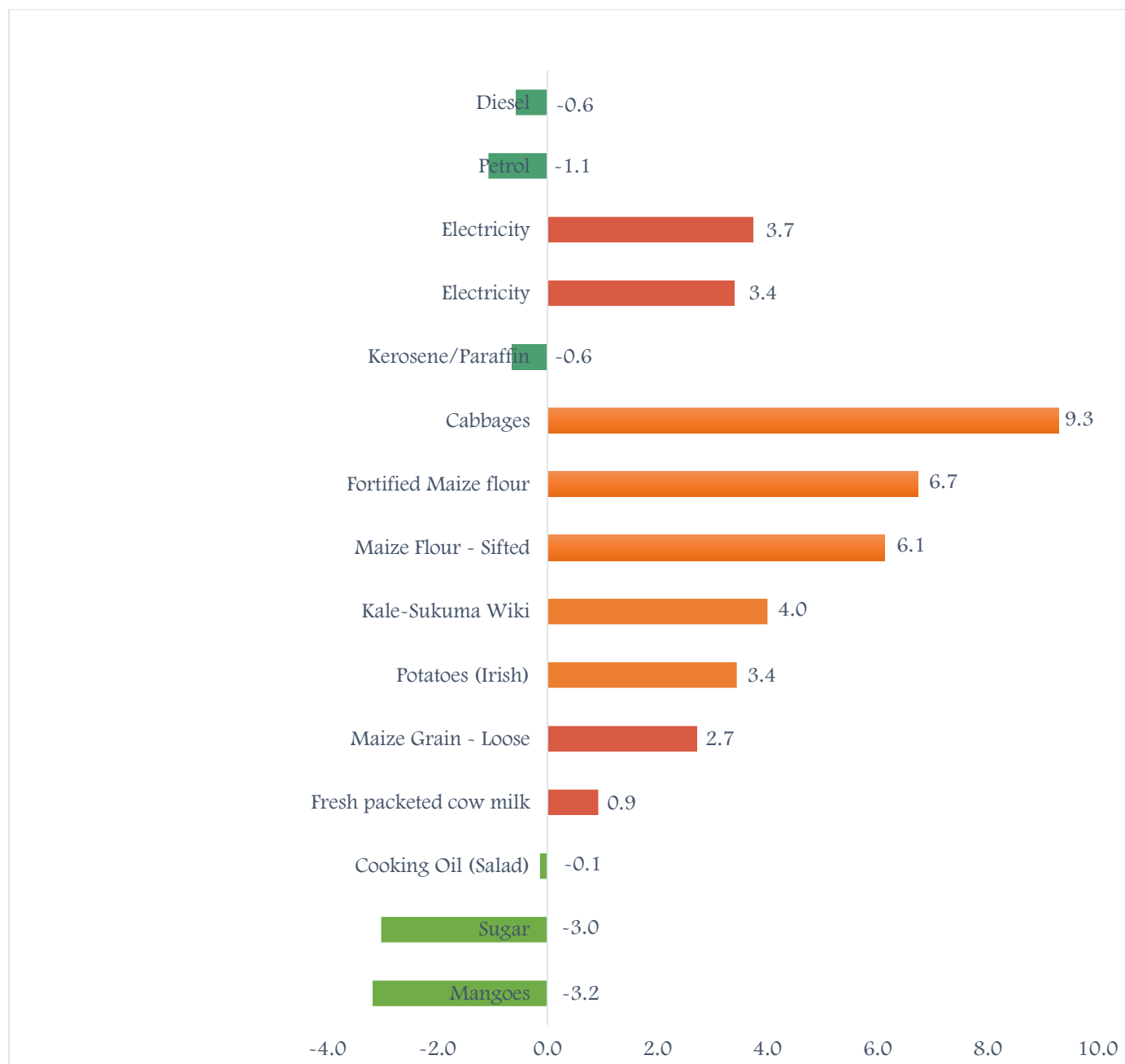
Between December 2025 and January 2026, prices of selected food commodities showed mixed movements as presented in Table 3. The price of sugar declined from KSh 179.60 to KSh 174.17 per kilogramme, while cooking oil (salad) recorded a marginal decrease from KSh 342.98 to KSh 342.50 per litre. In contrast, prices of maize grain (loose) rose from KSh 69.39 per to KSh 71.28 per kilogramme, kale (sukuma wiki) increased from KSh 98.51 per kg to KSh 102.45 per kilogramme, fortified maize flour (2 kg) went up from KSh 162.56 to KSh 173.51, and cabbages increased from KSh 65.39 to KSh 71.47 per kilogramme.

During the same period, prices of kerosene/paraffin declined slightly from KSh 155.96 to KSh 154.96 per litre. Electricity costs increased, with 200 kWh rising from KSh 5,530.12 to KSh 5,718.08, while 50 kWh increased from KSh 1,257.30 to KSh 1,304.29. Meanwhile, prices of petrol and diesel eased marginally, with petrol decreasing from KSh 185.59 to KSh 183.59 per litre, and diesel from KSh 172.64 to KSh 171.64 per litre.

Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Average Price January 2025	Average Price December 2025	Average Price January 2026	% Change over last month January 2026/ December 2025	% Change over last year January 2026/ January 2025
Mangoes	1	Kg	120.14	153.99	149.09	-3.2	24.1
Sugar	1	Kg	161.34	179.60	174.17	-3.0	7.9
Cooking Oil (Salad)	1	Litre	344.68	342.98	342.50	-0.1	-0.6
Fresh packeted cow milk	500	Milliliter	56.73	55.98	56.50	0.9	-0.4
Maize Grain - Loose	1	Kg	62.22	69.39	71.28	2.7	14.6
Potatoes (Irish)	1	Kg	87.99	94.99	98.25	3.4	11.7
Kale-Sukuma Wiki	1	Kg	82.93	98.51	102.45	4.0	23.5
Maize Flour - Sifted	2	Kg	143.79	145.12	154.00	6.1	7.1
Fortified Maize flour	2	Kg	161.60	162.56	173.51	6.7	7.4
Cabbages	1	Kg	52.75	65.39	71.47	9.3	35.5
Kerosene/Paraffin	1	Litre	152.18	155.96	154.96	-0.6	1.8
Electricity	200	kWh	5,705.92	5,530.12	5,718.08	3.4	0.2
Electricity	50	kWh	1,272.81	1,257.30	1,304.29	3.7	2.5
Petrol	1	Litre	177.25	185.59	183.59	-1.1	3.6
Diesel	1	Litre	167.84	172.64	171.64	-0.6	2.3
Private secondary tuition	1	Per year	34,872.95	35,206.28	36,311.25	3.1	4.1

Figure 5: Percentage Change Over Last Month, December 2025 – January 2026



Core and Non-Core Index and Inflation

Core inflation is a measure of inflation that is compiled from non-volatile commodities such as manufactured food items, health services, education services, and ICT. Core inflation increased to 2.2 per cent in January 2026, as presented in Table 4. The core index increased from 130.09 in December 2025 to 130.60 in January 2026. Non-core inflation was 10.3 per cent during the same period.

Table 4: Core and Non-Core Index and Inflation

Period	Core Index	Core Inflation	Non-Core Index	Non-Core Inflation
Jan-25	127.77	2.0	202.87	6.8
Feb-25	128.01	1.9	204.01	7.7
Mar-25	128.35	2.2	205.55	7.4
Apr-25	128.48	2.5	206.86	8.4
May-25	128.97	2.8	209.35	6.0
Jun-25	129.47	3.0	211.24	6.2
Jul-25	129.59	3.1	211.69	7.2
Aug-25	129.57	3.0	213.85	9.2
Sep-25	129.52	2.9	215.78	9.6
Oct-25	129.56	2.7	216.87	9.9
Nov-25	129.66	2.3	217.54	10.1
Dec-25	130.09	2.0	220.84	11.2
Jan-26	130.60	2.2	223.74	10.3

Contribution of Core and Non-Core to the Overall Inflation

Contribution of core and non-core inflation to the overall inflation is presented in Table 5. Core inflation contributed 2.6 points, while non-core inflation contributed 1.8 points to the overall inflation in January 2026. Food and non-alcoholic beverages contributed to 2.2 points to the overall inflation during the same period.

Table 5: Core and Non-Core Contributions, January 2026

Broad Categories	Core	Non-Core	Total
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	0.8	1.4	2.2
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	0.1	0.0	0.1
Clothing and Footwear	0.2	0.0	0.2
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	0.1	0.2	0.3
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household	0.2	0.0	0.2
Health	0.2	0.0	0.2
Transport	0.3	0.2	0.5
Information and Communication	0.1	0.0	0.1
Recreation, Sport and Culture	0.1	0.0	0.1
Education Services	0.2	0.0	0.2
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	0.2	0.0	0.2
Insurance and Financial Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods	0.2	0.0	0.2
Total	2.6	1.8	4.4



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