

KENYA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS



NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION RATES FOR MARCH 2020

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics hereby releases the monthly Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and rates of inflation, for March, 2020. These numbers are based on the new CPI whose base period is February 2019. The indices were generated from a survey of retail prices that targeted a basket of household consumption goods and services. The exercise was conducted during the second and third weeks of the month, with prices being obtained from selected retail outlets which comprised of 50 data collection zones, 14 of which are in Nairobi and 36 in other urban areas.

As shown in Tables 1 and 2, the CPI increased by 0.18 per cent from 106.33 in February 2020 to 106.53 in March 2020. The overall year on year inflation in March 2020 stood at 6.06 per cent.

Table 1: One Month and Twelve Months' Changes in the Price Indices

	Weight	% Change on last month March 2020/ February 2020)	% Change on same month of previous year March 2020 /March 2019)
13 COICOP Divisions			
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	32.91	0.55	11.85
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	3.33	0.14	7.63
Clothing and Footwear	2.99	0.03	2.09
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	14.61	-0.02	4.47
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	3.74	0.06	1.91
Health	2.91	0.10	1.01
Transport	9.65	-0.10	5.51
Information and Communication	7.78	0.00	-0.07
Recreation, Sport and Culture	1.72	0.04	1.04
Education Services	5.56	0.01	1.62
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	8.10	-0.13	3.36
Insurance and Financial Services	2.24	-0.01	0.97
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.45	0.10	3.13
Total	100.00	0.18	6.06

Table 2: Overall CPI and Inflation Rates

Base: February 2019=100

Month	Overall New CPI	Inflation Rate
Mar 2019	100.44	
Feb 2020	106.33	
Mar 2020	106.53	6.06

Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Average Price Mar 2019	Average Price Feb 2020	Average Price Mar 2020	% Change over last month Mar 2020/ Feb 2020	% Change over last Year Mar 2020/ Mar 2019
Mangoes	1	Kilogram	102.32	93.91	98.98	5.39	-3.27
Potatoes (Irish)	1	Kilogram	67.49	68.22	69.81	2.33	3.44
Onion -Leeks and Bulbs	1	Kilogram	93.58	108.36	110.60	2.06	18.19
Cooking Oil (Salad)	1	Litre	199.27	200.74	202.40	0.83	1.57
Non Aromatic (Unbroken) White Rice	2	Kilogram	341.36	336.64	334.56	-0.62	-1.99
Sugar	1	Kilogram	114.89	114.98	114.22	-0.66	-0.58
Maize Flour - Loose	1	Kilogram	42.28	54.15	53.36	-1.46	26.20
Spinach	1	Kilogram	56.45	58.11	55.28	-4.87	-2.07
Tomatoes	1	Kilogram	96.90	128.39	120.60	-6.06	24.46
House rent - double room	1	Per Month	6277.11	6283.13	6337.35	0.86	0.96
charcoal	1	Kilogram	50.59	58.12	56.83	-2.22	12.34
Petrol	1	Litre	102.39	112.58	111.13	-1.28	8.54

Food and Non-Alcoholic Drinks' Index increased by 0.55 per cent between February 2020 and March 2020 while the year on year food inflation in March, 2020 stood at 11.85 per cent. As indicated in Table 3, the increase was mainly driven by increase in prices of some food items such as Mangoes, Irish Potatoes, onions and cooking oils which increased by 5.39, 2.33, 2.06, and 0.83 per cent, respectively. However, during the same period, prices of tomatoes and spinach dropped by 6.06 and 4.87 per cent, respectively.

During the same review period, the Transport Index decreased by 0.10 per cent, mainly due to decrease in prices of petrol at 1.28 per cent.