

KENYA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION RATES FOR MAY 2020

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

As shown in Tables 1 and 2, the CPI increased by 0.63 per cent from 107.92 in April 2020 to 108.60 in May 2020. The overall year on year inflation in May 2020 stood at 5.47 per cent.

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

	Weight	% Change on last month May 2020/ April 2020)	% Change on same month of previous year May 2020 /May 2019)
13 COICOP Divisions			
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	32.91	0.86	10.55
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	3.33	1.06	7.97
Clothing and Footwear	2.99	0.76	2.54
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fu	14.61	0.84	2.55
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	3.74	0.11	1.69
Health	2.91	0.49	1.34
Transport	9.65	0.02	5.20
Information and Communication	7.78	0.08	0.61
Recreation, Sport and Culture	1.72	0.62	1.51
Education Services	5.56	-0.40	1.02
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	8.10	-0.46	1.87
Insurance and Financial Services	2.24	0.08	0.64
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.45	-0.17	1.86
Total	100.00	0.63	5.47

Table 2: Overall CPI and Inflation Rates

Base: February 2019=100

Month	Overall New CPI	Inflation Rate
Feb 2020	106.80	6.80
Mar 2020	107.00	5.51
Apr 2020	107.92	5.62
May 2020	108.60	5.47

Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Average Price May 2019	Average Price April 2020	Average Price May 2020	% Change over last month May2020/ April2020	% Change over last Year May 2020/ May 2019
Avocado	1	Kilogram	66.80	70.89	67.69	-4.50	1.34
Potatoes (Irish)	1	Kilogram	80.02	74.29	71.63	-3.58	-10.49
Tomatoes	1	Kilogram	100.00	119.47	115.89	-3.00	15.89
Kale-Sukuma Wiki	1	Kilogram	49.93	49.88	50.86	1.96	1.86
Beans	1	Kilogram	110.25	119.89	122.28	1.99	10.91
Spinach	1	Kilogram	70.43	57.34	58.63	2.24	-16.76
Oranges	1	Kilogram	66.99	63.06	64.68	2.57	-3.45
Carrots	1	Kilogram	93.46	70.09	72.42	3.32	-22.51
Onion -Leeks and Bulbs	1	Kilogram	101.43	118.20	123.53	4.51	21.79
Kerosene/Paraffin	1	Litre	105.76	78.59	81.08	3.17	-23.33
Electricity	50	Kilowatts	839.79	782.48	771.25	-1.44	-8.16
Electricity	200	Kilowatts	4,762.74	4,533.54	4,488.61	-0.99	-5.76
House rent - single room	1	Per Month	3,596.26	3,615.89	3,614.20	-0.05	0.50
Diesel	1	Litre	105.51	98.51	79.67	-19.12	-24.48
Petrol	1	Litre	113.10	93.78	84.58	-9.81	-25.22

Food and Non-Alcoholic Drinks' Index increased by 0.86 per cent between April and May 2020. Further, as shown in Table 1, the year on year food inflation stood at 10.55 per cent in May, 2020. As indicated in Table 3, the rise was mainly attributed to increase in prices of some food items such as onions (leeks and bulbs), carrots, oranges, spinach and sukuma wiki which rose by 4.51, 3.32, 2.57 2.24 and 1.96 per cent, respectively. On the other hand, prices of some food items such as avocado, potatoes (Irish) and tomatoes decreased by 4.50, 3.58 and 3.0 per cent, respectively.

During the same period, Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Index, increased by 0.84 per cent. As indicated in Table 3 this was mainly attributed to a 3.17 per cent increase in cost of kerosene. On the other hand, during the review period, the prices of electricity dropped slightly.

The Transport Index increased by 0.02 per cent, despite the decrease in prices of petrol and diesel by 9.81 per cent and 19.12 per cent, respectively, over the same period.