

KENYA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS



CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION RATES FOR AUGUST 2018

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics hereby releases monthly Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and rates of inflation, for August, 2018. These numbers were generated from a survey of retail prices that targeted a basket of household consumption goods and services. The survey was conducted during the second and third weeks of the month, with prices being obtained from selected retail outlets in 25 data collection zones in Nairobi and in 13 other urban centers.

As shown in Tables 1 and 2, the CPI increased by 0.31 per cent from 191.59 in July 2018 to 192.18 in August 2018. The overall year on year inflation stood at 4.04 per cent in August 2018.

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

| Broad Commodity Group | Weight | % Change on last month (Aug18 /Jul18) | % Change on same month of previous year (Aug18 /Aug17) |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages | 36.04 | -0.66 | -1.15 |
| Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics | 2.06 | 2.95 | 5.80 |
| Clothing and Footwear | 7.43 | 0.20 | 4.17 |
| Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels | 18.30 | 2.56 | 16.70 |
| Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance | 6.16 | 0.25 | 4.63 |
| Health | 3.13 | 0.21 | 5.69 |
| Transport | 8.66 | 0.87 | 9.37 |
| Communication | 3.82 | 0.01 | 0.62 |
| Recreation and Culture | 2.25 | 0.09 | 1.55 |
| Education | 3.14 | 0.00 | 5.11 |
| Restaurant and Hotels | 4.48 | 0.53 | 5.00 |
| Miscellaneous Goods and Services | 4.52 | 0.26 | 4.20 |
| Total | 100.00 | 0.31 | 4.04 |

Table 2: Overall CPI and Inflation Rates

Base: February 2009=100

| Month | Overall CPI | Inflation Rate |
|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| Aug 2017 | 184.72 | 8.04 |
| Sep 2017 | 183.66 | 7.06 |
| Oct 2017 | 182.5 | 5.72 |
| Nov 2017 | 182.08 | 4.73 |
| Dec 2017 | 183.05 | 4.50 |
| Jan 2018 | 185.47 | 4.83 |
| Feb 2018 | 188.00 | 4.46 |
| Mar 2018 | 190.62 | 4.18 |
| Apr 2018 | 193.18 | 3.73 |
| May 2018 | 195.05 | 3.95 |
| June 2018 | 193.31 | 4.28 |
| July 2018 | 191.59 | 4.35 |
| August 2018 | 192.18 | 4.04 |

Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

| Product | Unit of Measure | August 2017 Prices | July 2018 Prices | August 2018 Prices | % Change over last month | % Change over last year same month |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Potatoes (Irish) | 1 Kg | 57.13 | 60.12 | 73.62 | 22.4 | 28.9 |
| Sugar | 1 Kg | 145.10 | 137.11 | 147.33 | 7.5 | 1.5 |
| Cabbages | 1 Kg | 53.54 | 40.53 | 42.58 | 5.1 | -20.5 |
| Carrots | 1 Kg | 99.16 | 63.04 | 61.19 | -2.9 | -38.3 |
| Milk - Fresh Packeted | 500 MI | 60.17 | 60.17 | 60.81 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| Beef - With Bones | 1 Kg | 406.04 | 438.71 | 442.95 | 1.0 | 9.1 |
| Beans | 1 Kg | 114.79 | 107.66 | 106.94 | -0.7 | -6.8 |
| Maize Grain - Loose | 1 Kg | 58.95 | 51.47 | 42.39 | -17.6 | -28.1 |
| Maize Flour - Loose | 1 Kg | 61.71 | 57.27 | 45.32 | -20.9 | -26.6 |
| Kale-Sukuma Wiki | 1 Kg | 42.19 | 57.58 | 45.30 | -21.3 | 7.4 |
| Tomatoes | 1 Kg | 98.72 | 95.60 | 72.88 | -23.8 | -26.2 |
| House Rent | 1 Room | 4,108.70 | 4,344.58 | 4,403.40 | 1.4 | 7.2 |
| Kerosene | 1 litre | 64.41 | 86.69 | 85.90 | -0.9 | 33.4 |
| Petrol | 1 litre | 96.98 | 113.07 | 114.58 | 1.3 | 18.1 |
| Diesel | 1 litre | 86.84 | 104.21 | 103.69 | -0.5 | 19.4 |
| Electricity | 200 KWh | 3,944.26 | 4,122.26 | 4,392.82 | 6.6 | 11.4 |

Between July and August 2018, Food and Non-Alcoholic Drinks' Index decreased by 0.66 per cent. As indicated in Table 3, this was due to decrease in prices of some foodstuffs outweighing increases recorded in respect of others. This decrease was greatly contributed by fall in prices of maize grains. The year on year food inflation consequently, decreased from 0.53 per cent in July 2018 to a negative 1.15 per cent in August 2018.

Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Index, increased by 2.56 per cent in August 2018 compared to 0.12 per cent recorded in July 2018. This was mainly attributed to a significant increase in prices of electricity which rose by 52.8 per cent and 6.6 per cent for 50 and 200 KWh respectively. The year on year inflation for the group similarly increased significantly by 16.7 per cent over the period.

During the same review period, the Transport Index increased by 0.87 per cent mainly on account of increase in the pump price of petrol which outweighed decrease in price of diesel.