

KENYA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS



CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION RATES FOR OCTOBER 2018

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics hereby releases monthly Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and rates of inflation, for October, 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 decreased by 0.79 per cent from 194.14 in September 2018 to 192.59 in October 2018. The overall year on year inflation stood at 5.53 per cent in October 2018.

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

Broad Commodity Group	Weight	% Change on last month (Oct18 /Sep 18)	% Change on same month of previous year (Oct18 /Oct17)
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	36.04	-1.76	0.52
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	2.06	0.59	7.05
Clothing and Footwear	7.43	0.15	4.73
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	18.30	0.20	17.12
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	6.16	0.25	4.68
Health	3.13	0.06	5.92
Transport	8.66	-0.86	15.30
Communication	3.82	3.74	4.30
Recreation and Culture	2.25	0.08	1.67
Education	3.14	0.00	4.80
Restaurant and Hotels	4.48	0.30	4.32
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.52	0.34	4.44
Total	100.00	-0.79	5.53

Table 2: Overall CPI and Inflation Rates

Base: February 2009=100

Month	Overall CPI	Inflation Rate
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
Jul 2018	191.59	4.35
Aug 2018	192.18	4.04
Sep 2018	194.14	5.70
Oct. 2018	192.59	5.53

Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Units of Measure	Average Price October 2017	Average Price September 2018	Average Price October 2018	% Change on last month	% Change on same month last year
Maize Grain - Loose	1 Kg	56.80	40.55	34.53	-14.84	-39.21
Maize Flour - Sifted	2 Kg	101.58	97.88	83.83	-14.36	-17.47
Kale-Sukuma Wiki	1 Kg	41.83	46.47	45.00	-3.16	7.58
Tomatoes	1 Kg	105.11	70.55	67.07	-4.94	-36.19
Cabbages	1 Kg	38.57	41.12	39.43	-4.12	2.24
Carrots	1 Kg	60.09	59.35	57.70	-2.78	-3.98
Sugar	1 Kg	140.03	140.46	130.29	-7.24	-6.95
Rent	One Room	4,187.23	4,406.45	4,415.15	0.20	5.44
Matatu Fares	250 Km	400.21	420.00	426.67	1.59	6.61
Cell Phone Airtime	1 Minute	3.70	3.70	4.03	8.83	8.83
Petrol	Litre	101.09	117.54	116.48	-0.90	15.23
Diesel	Litre	88.43	108.97	110.57	1.47	25.04
Kerosene	Litre	67.12	109.25	109.68	0.40	63.42
Electricity	50 KWh	603.25	1,108.70	1,104.99	-0.33	83.17
Electricity	200 KWh	3,751.38	4,434.80	4,419.94	-0.34	17.82

Between September and October 2018, Food and Non-Alcoholic Drinks' Index declined by 1.76 per cent. As indicated in Table 3, the decrease was mainly due to lower prices of maize and maize products compared to previous month.

The price of a 2 kilogramme packet of sifted maize flour dropped by 14.4 per cent from an average of KSh 97.88 in September 2018 to KSh 83.83 in October 2018. During the same period, prices of various vegetables were lower in October 2018 than September 2018. The year on year food inflation was 0.52 per cent in October.

Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Index, increased by 0.20 per cent in October 2018. The rise in the index was due to increase in house rents. However, cost of electricity was lower in October 2018 than in September 2018.

During the same review period, the Transport Index decreased by 0.86 per cent mainly due to a drop in petrol prices.