

KENYA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS



CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION RATES FOR APRIL 2019

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics hereby releases monthly Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and rates of inflation, for April 2019. These numbers 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 in 25 data collection zones in Nairobi and in 13 other urban centers.

As shown in Tables 1 and 2, the CPI increased by 3.51 per cent from 198.91 in March 2019 to 205.90 in April 2019. The overall year on year inflation in April 2019 stood at 6.58 per cent.

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

Broad Commodity Group	Weight	% Change on last month (Apr19 /Mar19)	% Change on same month of previous year (Apr19 /Apr18)
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	36.04	6.86	8.17
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	2.06	1.32	8.83
Clothing and Footwear	7.43	0.24	2.33
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	18.30	0.93	5.78
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	6.16	0.05	2.50
Health	3.13	0.03	4.55
Transport	8.66	0.86	10.84
Communication	3.82	0.02	4.56
Recreation and Culture	2.25	0.11	0.69
Education	3.14	0.22	1.45
Restaurant and Hotels	4.48	0.75	3.23
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.52	0.17	3.07
Total	100.00	3.51	6.58

Table 2: Overall CPI and Inflation Rates

Base: February 2009=100

Month	Overall CPI	Inflation Rate
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	192.60	5.53
Nov 2018	192.25	5.58
Dec 2018	193.51	5.71
Jan 2019	194.18	4.70
Feb 2019	195.78	4.14
Mar 2019	198.91	4.35
Apr 2019	205.90	6.58

Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Units of measure	Average price - April 2018	Average price - March 2019	Average price April 2019	% Change over last month (Apr19/ Mar19)	% Change over a year ago (Apr19/ Apr18)
Maize Flour - Sifted	2 Kg	124.01	86.47	112.26	29.82	-9.5
Kale-Sukuma Wiki	1 Kg	55.12	52.99	66.40	25.30	20.4
Potatoes (Irish)	1 Kg	67.33	82.08	97.89	19.27	45.4
Maize Grain - Loose	1 Kg	61.15	35.74	45.08	26.14	-26.3
Tomatoes	1 Kg	104.26	90.23	104.05	15.31	-0.2
Maize Flour - Loose	1 Kg	62.74	41.56	48.16	15.90	-23.2
Sugar	1 Kg	131.22	117.33	102.55	-12.59	-21.8
Cabbages	1 Kg	42.21	41.68	46.59	11.77	10.4
Spinach	1 Kg	65.51	57.58	70.54	22.51	7.7
Petrol	1 litre	107.70	102.13	107.57	5.32	-0.1
Diesel	1 litre	98.82	97.47	103.09	5.77	4.3
Kerosene	1 litre	77.68	100.31	102.49	2.17	31.9
Cooking Oil	1 litre	250.50	249.22	248.94	-0.11	-0.6
Gas - (LPG)	13 Kg	2,172.24	2,191.84	2,184.85	-0.32	0.6
Electricity	50 KWh	745.93	777.98	778.73	0.10	4.4
Electricity	200 KWh	4,322.10	4,515.51	4,518.50	0.07	4.5
House Rent	One Room	4,307.18	4,473.65	4,486.83	0.29	4.2

Between March and April 2019, Food and Non-Alcoholic Drinks' Index increased by 6.86 per cent. As indicated in Table 3, this increase was mainly due to drought conditions which prevailed in the better part of April 2019 causing upsurge in the costs of some foodstuffs. For instance, sifted maize flour, Kales (*sukuma wiki*), potatoes, loose maize grain and flour and tomatoes recorded increases of 29.82, 25.30, 19.27, 26.14, 15.90 and 15.31, per cent, respectively, in April compared to March 2019. These six items alone account for 6.25 per cent of the CPI weight. However, prices of sugar and some other food items were observed to be lower in April 2019 than in March 2019.

The Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Index, increased by 0.93 per cent in April compared to March 2019 mainly due to higher cost of some house rents and electricity.

The Transport Index increased by 0.86 per cent, mainly on account of increase in pump prices of petrol and diesel.