

CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION RATES FOR AUGUST 2020

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics hereby releases the monthly Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and rates of inflation, for August, 2020. 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 located in 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 0.20 per cent from 108.35 in July 2020 to 108.57 in August 2020. The overall year on year inflation in August 2020 stood at 4.36 per cent.

Table1: One Month and Twelve Months' Changes in the Consumer Price Indices

	Weight	% Change on last month August2020/ July 2020	% Change on same month of previous year August 2020 /August 2019
13 COICOP Divisions			
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	32.91	-1.01	5.43
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	3.33	0.34	5.03
Clothing and Footwear	2.99	0.02	2.03
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	14.61	1.24	2.11
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	3.74	0.27	1.20
Health	2.91	0.58	2.31
Transport	9.65	2.11	13.07
Information and Communication	7.78	1.12	0.80
Recreation, Sport and Culture	1.72	0.21	2.88
Education Services	5.56	-0.23	1.63
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	8.10	1.48	2.85
Insurance and Financial Services	2.24	0.01	0.42
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.45	0.05	2.15
Total	100.00	0.20	4.36

Table 2: Overall CPI and Rates of Inflation

Month	Overall New CPI	Inflation Rate
February 2020	107.17	7.17
March 2020	107.47	5.84
April 2020	108.49	6.01
May 2020	108.60	5.33
June 2020	108.27	4.59
July 2020	108.35	4.36
August 2020	108.57	4.36

Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Average Price in August 2019	Average Price in July 2020	Average Price in August 2020	% Change over last month August 2020/ July 2020	% Change over same month of last Year August 2020/ August 2019
Beans	1	Kg	109.11	121.60	124.24	2.17	13.87
Mangoes	1	Kg	104.79	97.92	102.98	5.16	-1.73
Peas	1	Kg	161.68	163.33	175.45	7.42	8.51
Spinach	1	Kg	60.31	58.21	53.84	-7.51	-10.73
Maize Flour - Sifted	2	Kg	114.59	123.68	119.65	-3.26	4.42
Cabbages	1	Kg	44.82	39.44	36.54	-7.36	-18.48
Maize Grain - Loose	1	Kg	50.88	51.53	48.96	-5.00	-3.77
Potatoes (Irish)	1	Kg	70.27	65.23	62.21	-4.63	-11.47
Sugar	1	Kg	116.77	116.67	113.58	-2.65	-2.73
Kale-Sukuma Wiki	1	Kg	40.78	51.84	48.41	-6.62	18.69
Onion -Leeks and Bulbs	1	Kg	100.53	123.95	103.64	-16.38	3.09
Tomatoes	1	Kg	97.29	96.19	84.60	-12.05	-13.05
Kerosene/Paraffin	1	Litre	105.02	66.41	84.60	27.38	-19.45
Charcoal	1	Kg	53.29	57.37	58.60	2.15	9.96
Electricity	200	Kilowatts	4,776.70	4,552.20	4,576.10	0.52	-4.20
Diesel	1	Litre	101.73	92.81	95.57	2.97	-6.06
Petrol	1	Litre	113.60	101.37	104.83	3.41	-7.72

As indicated in Table 1, Food and Non-Alcoholic Drinks' Index decreased by 1.01 per cent, while the year on year food inflation increased by 5.43 per cent, in August 2020. This resulted from decreases in prices of several food items outweighing the increases. For instance as shown in Table 3, prices of onions, tomatoes and spinach registered decreases of 16.38, 12.05 and 7.51 per cent, respectively in August 2020 compared to July 2020. However, during the same period, prices of beans, mangoes and peas increased by 2.17, 5.16 and 7.42 per cent, respectively.

During the review period, the Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Index, went up by 1.24 per cent. This was mainly attributed to increase

in cost of electricity and kerosene by 0.52 per cent and 27.38 per cent, respectively.

The Transport Index increased by 2.11 per cent over the same period, mainly due to increase in the pump prices of diesel and petrol by 2.97 per cent and 3.41 per cent, respectively.