

KENYA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS



CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION RATES FOR AUGUST 2019

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics hereby releases the monthly Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and rates of inflation, for August, 2019. These numbers have been generated from a survey of retail prices of a predetermined stable 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, 12 in Nairobi and 13 in other urban centers.

As shown in Tables 1 and 2, the CPI decreased by 0.90 per cent from 203.61 in July 2019 to 201.78 in August 2019. The overall year on year inflation in August 2019 stood at 5.00 per cent.

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

Broad Commodity Group	Weight	% Change on last month August19 /July19)	% Change on same month of previous year (August19 /August18)
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	36.04	-1.89	7.13
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	2.06	0.27	6.73
Clothing and Footwear	7.43	0.05	1.79
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	18.30	-0.10	1.39
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	6.16	0.14	1.82
Health	3.13	0.02	1.58
Transport	8.66	-0.03	9.53
Communication	3.82	0.00	4.44
Recreation and Culture	2.25	0.01	0.46
Education	3.14	-0.04	1.52
Restaurant and Hotels	4.48	0.02	2.27
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.52	-0.04	2.52
Total	100.00	-0.90	5.00

Table 2: Overall CPI and Inflation Rates

Base: February 2009=100

Month	Overall CPI	Inflation Rate
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
May 2019	205.77	5.49
June 2019	204.34	5.70
July 2019	203.61	6.27
Aug 2019	201.78	5.00

Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Unit of measure	Average price - August 2018	Average price - July 2019	Average price August 2019	% Change over last month (August 19/ July19)	% Change over a year ago (August 19/ August 18)
Kale-Sukuma Wiki	1 Kg	45.30	40.43	37.19	-8.01	-17.90
Potatoes (Irish)	1 Kg	73.62	73.14	67.43	-7.81	-8.41
Cabbages	1 Kg	42.58	46.40	43.26	-6.78	1.58
Carrots	1 Kg	61.19	77.12	72.49	-6.01	18.47
Tomatoes	1 Kg	72.88	94.81	90.17	-4.89	23.72
Maize Grain - Loose	1 Kg	42.39	48.96	47.58	-2.80	12.25
Sugar	1 Kg	147.33	107.93	107.22	-0.66	-27.22
Maize Flour - Sifted	2 Kg	99.35	119.89	119.80	-0.07	20.58
Beef - With Bones	1 Kg	442.95	451.53	454.70	0.70	2.65
Mangoes	1 Kg	111.71	120.68	121.93	1.03	9.15
Diesel	1 litre	103.69	104.74	101.45	-3.14	-2.16
Petrol	1 litre	114.58	116.14	113.29	-2.45	-1.13
Gas - (LPG)	13 Kg	2,177.32	2,171.47	2,150.27	-0.98	-1.24
Electricity	200 Kwh	4,392.82	4,752.91	4,776.70	0.50	8.74
Electricity	50 Kwh	1,063.72	837.33	843.27	0.71	-20.72
Kerosene	1 litre	85.90	102.83	104.80	1.92	22.01

In August 2019, Food and Non-Alcoholic Drinks' Index decreased by 1.89 per cent following a decline of 1.04 per cent that was recorded in July 2019. This

decline was mainly attributed to favourable weather conditions and follows a trend that has been observed over the last five months. The prices of significant food items including sukuma wiki (*kales*), potatoes, cabbages, carrots, tomatoes and maize grain loose decreased by 8.01, 7.81, 6.78, 6.01, 4.89 and 2.80 per cent, respectively. Decrease in prices of these commodities outweighed observed increase in the cost of other food stuffs, thereby causing a decrease in the food index

During the same period, Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Index, decreased by 0.10 per cent. As indicated in Table 3 above, this was mainly as a result of decrease in prices of some cooking fuels. The cost of a 13 kg cylinder of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) for instance, decreased by 0.98 percent from KSh 2,171.47 in July 2019 to KSh 2,150.27 in August 2019.

The Transport Index decreased by 0.03 per cent mainly due to the reduction in pump prices of diesel and petrol by 3.14 and 2.45 per cent respectively.