

# KENYA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS



## CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION RATES FOR FEBRUARY 2019

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics hereby releases monthly Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and rates of inflation, for February, 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 0.82 per cent from 194.18 in January 2019 to 195.78 in February 2019. The overall year on year inflation in February 2019 stood at 4.14 per cent.

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

Broad Commodity Group	Weight	% Change on last month (Feb19 /Jan19)	% Change on same month of previous year (Feb19 /Feb18)
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	36.04	1.70	1.09
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	2.06	1.14	7.33
Clothing and Footwear	7.43	0.13	2.43
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	18.30	0.12	12.35
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	6.16	0.24	3.03
Health	3.13	0.44	4.47
Transport	8.66	-0.50	9.56
Communication	3.82	0.07	4.52
Recreation and Culture	2.25	0.09	0.83
Education	3.14	0.00	1.24
Restaurant and Hotels	4.48	0.18	3.04
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.52	0.26	3.16
Total	100.00	0.82	4.14

**Table 2: Overall CPI and Inflation Rates**

Base: February 2009=100

Month	Overall CPI	Inflation Rate
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	192.60	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

Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Units of measure	Average price - February 2018	Average price - January 2019	Average price - February 2019	% Change over last month (Feb19/ Jan19)	% Change over a year ago (Feb19/ Feb18)
Maize Grain - Loose	1 Kg	60.37	35.23	35.63	1.11	-40.99
Beans	1 Kg	116.19	108.64	109.82	1.09	-5.48
Maize Flour - Sifted	2 Kg	125.03	87.20	86.67	-0.61	-30.68
Wheat Flour	2 Kg	120.00	123.64	122.82	-0.66	2.35
Spinach	1 Kg	62.73	46.41	49.77	7.25	-20.66
Kale-Sukuma Wiki	1 Kg	53.06	44.32	47.30	6.73	-10.86
Tomatoes	1 Kg	98.82	76.69	82.39	7.44	-16.63
Cabbages	1 Kg	40.97	38.28	39.59	3.43	-3.36
Carrots	1 Kg	56.97	63.93	65.73	2.82	15.39
Potatoes (Irish)	1 Kg	60.07	75.42	76.42	1.33	27.22
Sugar	1 Kg	131.02	122.00	119.86	-1.75	-8.51
House rent	One room	4,291.93	4,456.98	4,465.20	0.18	4.04
Electricity	200 KWh	4,067.22	4,485.52	4,561.90	1.70	12.16
Electricity	50 KWh	682.21	770.48	789.57	2.48	15.74
Kerosene	1 litre	77.71	102.56	97.36	-5.07	25.29
Charcoal	4 Kg	84.49	141.22	141.04	-0.12	66.93
Petrol	1 litre	108.79	103.10	101.13	-1.91	-7.03
Diesel	1 litre	97.92	104.99	96.83	-7.77	-1.11

Between January and February 2019, Food and Non-Alcoholic Drinks' Index increased by 1.70 per cent. As indicated in Table 3, the cost of several foodstuffs in February 2019 was much lower compared to the same period of the previous year. For instance, maize grain

recorded a drop of 41.0 per cent from Ksh.60.37 per kilogramme in February 2018 to Ksh.35.63 in February 2019. Similarly, the prices of sifted maize flour, spinach and tomatoes declined by 30.68, 20.66 and 16.63 per cent, respectively. These lower prices contributed to a relatively low overall inflation in February 2019.

The Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Index, increased by 0.12 per cent in February compared to January 2019. This resulted from higher cost of some house rents and some cooking fuels. Partly contributing to this, were prices of domestic consumption of electricity which increased by 2.48 and 1.70 per cent for 50 Kwh and 200 KWh, respectively on account of increase in fuel cost and inflation adjustment charges.

The Transport Index decreased by 0.50 per cent, mainly as a result of significant decreases in pump prices of petrol and diesel.