

KENYA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS



CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION RATES FOR JANUARY 2019

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics hereby releases monthly Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and rates of inflation, for January, 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 0.35 per cent from 193.51 in December 2018 to 194.18 in January 2019. The overall year on year inflation in January 2019 stood at 4.70 per cent.

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

Broad Commodity Group	Weight	% Change on last month (Jan19 /Dec18)	% Change on same month of previous year (Jan19 /Jan18)
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	36.04	0.78	1.62
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	2.06	0.21	6.48
Clothing and Footwear	7.43	0.10	2.80
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	18.30	0.20	12.68
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	6.16	0.18	3.58
Health	3.13	0.35	4.52
Transport	8.66	-1.40	11.05
Communication	3.82	0.10	4.69
Recreation and Culture	2.25	0.07	0.90
Education	3.14	0.99	1.48
Restaurant and Hotels	4.48	0.16	3.36
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.52	0.39	3.52
Total	100.00	0.35	4.70

Table 2: Overall CPI and Inflation Rates

Base: February 2009=100

Month	Overall CPI	Inflation Rate
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	192.60	5.53
Nov 2018	192.25	5.58
Dec 2018	193.51	5.71
Jan 2019	194.18	4.70

Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Units of measure	Average price - January 2018	Average price - December 2018	Average price - January 2019	% Change over last month (Jan19/Dec18)	% Change over a year ago (Jan19/Jan18)
Maize Grain - Loose	1 Kg	59.30	35.05	35.23	0.53	-40.58
Banana - Ripe	1 Kg	99.87	105.49	104.03	-1.38	4.17
Sugar	1 Kg	132.16	125.20	122.00	-2.56	-7.69
Mangoes	1 Kg	93.86	115.40	112.30	-2.69	19.65
Beans	1 Kg	115.67	107.68	108.64	0.89	-6.08
Milk - Fresh Packeted	500 ML	60.54	60.74	61.12	0.63	0.95
Rice Grade 1	1 Kg	215.54	220.54	220.67	0.06	2.38
Wheat Flour	2 Kg	135.60	123.86	123.64	-0.18	-8.82
Maize Flour - Sifted	2 Kg	122.88	86.55	87.20	0.75	-29.04
Rice- Grade 2	1 Kg	118.03	124.29	123.90	-0.31	4.98
Maize Flour - Loose	1 Kg	62.18	41.72	41.92	0.50	-32.58
Secondary-Tuition	Per term	10,610.40	10,655.15	10,795.24	1.31	1.74
Primary-Tuition	Per term	9,370.62	9,419.41	9,508.57	0.95	1.47
Electricity	200 KWh	4,069.22	4,434.48	4,485.52	1.15	10.23
Electricity	50 KWh	682.71	757.72	770.48	1.68	12.86
Rent	Single room	4,261.53	4,436.45	4,456.98	0.46	4.59
Country Bus Fares	350 Km	1,074.01	1,245.94	1,239.97	-0.48	15.45
City Bus/Matatu Fares	short distance	45.53	50.08	49.82	-0.53	9.43
Diesel	1 litre	95.79	111.89	103.10	-7.86	7.63
Petrol	1 litre	107.17	114.96	104.99	-8.67	-2.03

Between December 2018 and January 2019, Food and Non-Alcoholic Drinks' Index increased by 0.78 per cent, while the year on year food inflation stood at 1.62 per cent. As indicated in Table 3, the cost of several foodstuffs in January 2019 was much lower compared to the same period of the previous year. For instance, maize grain recorded a drop of 40.6 per cent from KSh 59.90 per kilogram in January 2018 to KSh 35.25 in January 2019. Similarly, the prices of sifted maize flour, sugar and beans declined by 29.04, 7.69 and 6.08 per cent, respectively. These lower prices contributed to the overall low inflation in January 2019.

Over the same period, the Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Index, increased by 0.20 per cent as a result of higher cost of house rents and cooking fuels. Partly contributing to this, were prices of domestic electricity consumption for 50 Kwh as well as for 200 KWh which increased by 1.68 and 1.15 per cent, respectively, attributed to increase in foreign and inflation adjustment charges.

The Transport Index decreased by 1.40 per cent, mainly due to decreases in pump prices of petrol and diesel.