

CPI AND INFLATION RATES FOR MARCH 2013

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics hereby releases Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and rates of inflation for March 2013. These numbers have been generated using data collected during the second and third weeks of the month under review. Prices were obtained from selected retail outlets in 25 data collection zones located in 13 urban centers.

As shown in Table 1 and Table 2, the CPI increased by 1.01 per cent from 136.59 in February 2013 to 137.96 in March 2013. The overall inflation rate stood at 4.11 per cent in March 2013.

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

Broad Commodity Group	CPI Weight	% Change on last month (March 2013/ February 2013)	% Change on same month of Previous Year (March 2013/ March 2012)
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	36.04	1.35	2.93
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	2.06	0.96	4.61
Clothing & Footwear	7.43	0.45	5.48
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	18.30	0.96	4.82
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	6.16	0.31	4.61
Health	3.13	0.21	3.44
Transport	8.66	1.49	6.14
Communication	3.82	0.16	-0.17
Recreation & Culture	2.25	0.33	3.87
Education	3.14	0.11	6.03
Restaurant & Hotels	4.48	1.01	7.25
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	4.52	0.25	4.50
Total	100.00	1.01	4.11

Table 2: Overall CPI and Inflation Rates

February 2009=100

Month	Overall CPI	Overall Rate of Inflation
Mar-2012	132.51	15.61
Apr-2012	133.74	13.06
May-2012	134.09	12.22
Jun-2012	133.06	10.05
Jul-2012	131.92	7.74
Aug-2012	131.51	6.09
Sep-2012	131.89	5.32

Oct-2012	132.46	4.14
Nov-2012	133.33	3.25
Dec-2012	134.25	3.20
Jan - 2013	135.62	3.67
Feb - 2013	136.59	4.45
Mar-2013	137.96	4.11

Table3: National Average Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Units of Measure	March 2012 Average Price	February 2013 Average Price	March 2013 Average Price	% change on last Month	% change on same Month last year
Milk - Fresh Packeted	500 MI	37.96	41.19	38.97	(5.38)	2.66
Cabbages	1 Kg	59.32	47.99	51.00	6.27	(14.04)
Kale-Sukuma Wiki	1 Kg	43.38	37.14	39.32	5.87	(9.38)
Potatoes (Irish)	1 Kg	60.35	55.35	58.56	5.80	(2.97)
Beef - With Bones	1 Kg	320.55	333.51	334.74	0.37	4.43
Electricity	50 KWh	582	564	638	13.12	9.62
Electricity	200 KWh	3,114	3,042	3,338	9.73	7.19
Kerosene	1 litre	83.70	85.50	88.01	2.94	5.16
Petrol	1 litre	112.89	114.38	117.49	2.71	4.07
Diesel	1 litre	106.41	107.58	108.30	0.67	1.78

Between February and March 2013, Food and Non Alcoholic drinks' index increased by 1.35 per cent. As shown in Table 3 above, increase in the food index resulted from a combination of both rises and falls in the average prices of different food items.

Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' index went up by 0.96 per cent between February and March 2013. This increase was mainly caused by higher costs of electricity, kerosene, Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and other cooking fuels. In particular, during the review period, electricity charges went up on account of higher fuel and forex adjustment charges which rose from KSh 5.38 to KSh 6.21 and from KSh 1.04 to KSh 1.69 per KWh respectively.

The Transport index went up by 1.49 per cent over the same period due to higher costs of petrol, diesel, taxi, and bus/matatu fares.