

CPI AND INFLATION RATES FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2011

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics hereby releases the Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and inflation rates for April 2011. These numbers have been generated using data collected within the second and third weeks of the month under review. The prices were obtained from selected retail outlets in 25 data collection zones located in 13 urban centers.

As reflected in Tables 1 and 2, the CPI increased by 3.20 per cent from 114.62 in March 2011 to 118.29 in April 2011. The overall inflation rate stood at 12.05 per cent in April 2011.

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

Broad Commodity Group	CPI Weight	% Change on Previous Month (April 2011 / March 2011)	% Change on Previous Year (April 2011/ April 2010)
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	36.04	4.76	19.14
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	2.06	2.84	8.52
Clothing & Footwear	7.43	0.89	5.19
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	18.3	2.21	8.97
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	6.16	1.89	6.83
Health	3.13	1.2	6.91
Transport	8.66	4.29	20.44
Communication	3.82	-0.05	-25.69
Recreation & Culture	2.25	0.46	6.87
Education	3.14	0.27	4.4
Restaurant & Hotels	4.48	2.54	11.67
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	4.52	1.41	5.57
Total	100	3.2	12.05

Table 2: Overall CPI and Inflation Rates

Month	February 2009=100	
	Overall CPI	Overall rate of Inflation

Apr-10	105.56	3.66
May-10	105.79	3.88
Jun-10	105.61	3.49
Jul-10	105.98	3.57
Aug-10	106.25	3.22
Sep-10	106.74	3.21
Oct-10	106.97	3.18
Nov-10	107.86	3.84
Dec-10	109.38	4.51
Jan-11	110.57	5.42
Feb-11	112.05	6.54
Mar-11	114.62	9.19
Apr-11	118.29	12.05

The Food and Non Alcoholic drinks' index went up by 4.76 per cent between March 2011 and April 2011. This was attributed to cost increases recorded in respect of food products such as maize flour, potatoes, beef, maize grain, tomatoes, beans, milk and bread.

The Transport index rose by 4.29 per cent, mainly due to increased costs of petrol, diesel and bus/matatu fares. The prices of these items went up by 8.47, 2.32 and 5.97 per cent, respectively, between March and April 2011.

Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' index went up by 2.21 per cent in the period under review mainly on account of continued increases in the prices of electricity and other essential cooking fuels. The main causes of higher cost of electricity were the continued increases in the fuel and forex adjustment charges. For instance, for every Kwh of electricity, fuel cost adjustment charges rose from KSh 5.73 in March 2011 to KSh 6.15 in April 2011.

Compared to April last year significant increases in the prices of a number of commodities have been noted. Table 3 gives the average prices of some selected items recorded in April 2011 alongside those in April 2010.

Table3: Comparison of Average Prices for Some Selected Commodities

Commodity	Units of Measure	Average Price : April 2010	Average Price : April 2011	% Change
Potatoes (Irish)	1 Kg	34.45	64.31	86.66
Cooking Fat	1 Kg	149.75	229.65	53.36
Kerosene	1 litre	60.2	91.91	52.69
Cooking Oil	1 litre	150.8	216.53	43.59
Diesel	1 litre	78.13	108.29	38.61
Household Soap/Bar Soap	800 g	68.79	90.91	32.16

Petrol	1 litre	87.86	112.1	27.59
Wheat Flour	2 Kg	105.09	129.18	22.92
Gas (LPG)	13 Kg	1,911.40	2,345.41	22.71