

CPI AND INFLATION RATES FOR FEBRUARY 2012

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics hereby releases Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and rates of inflation for February 2012. These numbers have been generated using data collected during 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 shown in Table 1 and Table 2, the CPI decreased by 0.04 per cent from 130.82 in January 2012 to 130.76 in February 2012. The overall inflation rate stood at 16.69 per cent in February 2012.

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

Broad Commodity Group	CPI Weight	% Change on February 2012 /January 2012)	% Change on Previous Year (February 2012/ February 2011)
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	36.04	-0.30	22.05
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	2.06	0.19	15.05
Clothing & Footwear	7.43	0.43	11.85
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	18.30	0.20	13.84
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	6.16	0.49	13.40
Health	3.13	0.43	6.71
Transport	8.66	-0.91	15.89
Communication	3.82	0.03	7.44
Recreation & Culture	2.25	0.83	11.57
Education	3.14	0.56	6.16
Restaurant & Hotels	4.48	1.20	20.38
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	4.52	0.25	11.61
Total	100.00	-0.04	16.69

Table 2: Overall CPI and Inflation Rates

February 2009=100

Month	Overall CPI	Overall Rate of Inflation
Feb-2011	112.05	6.54
Mar-2011	114.62	9.19
Apr-2011	118.29	12.05
May-2011	119.48	12.95
Jun-2011	120.91	14.49
Jul-2011	122.44	15.53
Aug-2011	123.97	16.67
Sep-2011	125.23	17.32
Oct-2011	127.20	18.91
Nov-2011	129.13	19.72
Dec - 2011	130.09	18.93
Jan - 2012	130.82	18.31
Feb-2012	130.76	16.69

Food and Non Alcoholic drinks' index fell by 0.3 per cent between January 2012 and February 2012. This slight decrease was a net effect of both rises and falls in the prices of a number of food products. The prices of sukuma wiki, cabbages, potatoes and milk for instance went up by 12.48, 11.75, 4.56 and 2.87 per cent, respectively, between the two months. On the other hand, the prices of sugar, maize flour, wheat flour, maize grain and rice went down by 17.61, 4.27, 6.22, 2.56 and 0.78 per cent, respectively, over the same period. Indeed, the average price of a kilogram of sugar dropped significantly from KSh 145.34 in January 2012 to KSh 119.74 in February 2012.

Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' index went up marginally by 0.2 per cent between January 2012 and February 2012. Whereas the cost of electricity slightly surged upwards on account of small increases in the fuel cost adjustment charges, the average prices of kerosene and cooking gas recorded decreases of 3.80 and 5.65 per cent, respectively, over the same period.

The Transport index went down by 0.91 per cent between January 2012 and February 2012. This decline came as a result of continued falls in matatu, bus and taxi fares that was attributed to reductions of 0.46 and 1.50 per cent, respectively, in the prices of petrol and diesel.