

CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION RATES FOR APRIL 2023

The overall year on year inflation rate as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 7.9 per cent, in April 2023. As presented in Tables 1 and 2, the increase in inflation was largely due to increase in prices of commodities under Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages (10.1%); and Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other fuels (9.6%); and Transport (9.8%) between April 2022 and April 2023. These three divisions account for over 57 per cent of the weights of the 13 broad categories. Prices of commodities under furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance recorded an increase of 6.7 per cent over the period.

The CPI increased by 0.5 per cent from an index of 131.18 in March 2023 to 131.83 in April 2023, which was largely attributable to increase in prices of electricity. The month-to-month Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages Index increased marginally between March 2023 and April 2023.

Table 1: Overall CPI and Rates of Inflation

Month	Base Feb 2019=100	
	Overall CPI	Inflation Rate
April 2022	122.17	6.5
May 2022	123.12	7.1
June 2022	124.22	7.9
July 2022	125.05	8.3
August 2022	125.58	8.5
September 2022	126.73	9.2
October 2022	127.86	9.6
November 2022	128.31	9.5
December 2022	128.99	9.1
January 2023	129.29	9.0
February 2023	130.13	9.2
March 2023	131.18	9.2
April 2023	131.83	7.9

Table 2: One and Twelve-Month Changes in the Consumer Price Indices

	Weight %	% Change on last month (April 2023/ March 2023)	% Change on same month of the previous year (April 2023/ April 2022)
13 COICOP Divisions			
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	32.9094	0.1	10.1
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	3.3289	0.4	9.0
Clothing and Footwear	2.9914	0.2	2.9
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	14.6124	2.7	9.6
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	3.7372	0.0	6.7
Health	2.9116	0.0	2.2
Transport	9.6468	0.2	9.8
Information and Communication	7.7840	0.1	1.2
Recreation, Sport and Culture	1.7219	0.2	5.4
Education Services	5.5620	0.0	2.5
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	8.0991	0.3	5.8
Insurance and Financial Services	2.2423	0.0	1.4
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.4532	0.4	7.5
Total	100.0000	0.5	7.9

As shown in Table 3, the prices for potatoes (Irish), beans and mangoes increased by 7.2, 5.0 and 3.5 per cent, respectively between March 2023 and April 2023. During the same period, prices of spinach, kales-sukuma wiki and tomatoes declined by 12.6, 11.8 and 4.7 per cent, respectively.

Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Average Price April 2022	Average Price March 2023	Average Price April 2023	% Change over last month April 2023/ March 2023	% Change over last year April 2023/ April 2022
Potatoes (Irish)	1	Kg	88.40	99.01	106.18	7.2	20.1
Beans	1	Kg	134.47	173.62	182.33	5.0	35.6
Mangoes	1	Kg	109.63	114.57	118.60	3.5	8.2
Onion -Leeks and Bulbs	1	Kg	139.19	121.04	123.65	2.2	(11.2)
Sugar	1	Kg	130.46	156.18	159.10	1.9	22.0
Maize Grain - Loose	1	Kg	60.95	77.63	78.87	1.6	29.4
Beef - With Bones	1	Kg	508.49	535.68	542.28	1.2	6.6
Cooking Fat	500	Gram	165.81	177.45	173.72	(2.1)	4.8
Cabbages	1	Kg	53.57	65.17	62.16	(4.6)	16.0
Tomatoes	1	Kg	112.69	113.12	107.82	(4.7)	(4.3)
Kale-Sukuma Wiki	1	Kg	63.55	71.87	63.36	(11.8)	(0.3)
Spinach	1	Kg	72.80	78.99	69.03	(12.6)	(5.2)
House rent - 2 bedroom	1	Per Month	17,280.49	17,809.82	17,844.65	0.2	3.3
Kerosene/Paraffin	1	Litre	114.36	146.86	146.86	-	28.4
Electricity	200	Kilowatts	4,373.12	5,584.72	6,349.80	13.7	45.2
Electricity	50	Kilowatts	796.83	1,099.73	1,304.92	18.7	63.8
Petrol	1	Litre	145.52	180.05	180.05	-	23.7
Diesel	1	Litre	126.45	162.91	162.91	-	28.8

The Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Index, increased by 2.7 per cent between March 2023 and April 2023. This was mainly due to increase in prices of electricity which increased by 18.7 per cent for 50 Kilowatts and 13.7 per cent for 200 kilowatts between March 2023 and April 2023.

The Transport Index went up by 0.2 per cent between March 2023 and April 2023.



Ann M. Mburu, HSC
For: DIRECTOR GENERAL