

CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION RATES FOR MAY 2024

The annual headline inflation rate as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased to 5.1 per cent, in May 2024 from 5.0 per cent in April 2024. This means that the general price level in May 2024 was 5.1 per cent higher than that of May 2023. The price increase was mainly driven by rise in prices of commodities under Transport (8.1%); Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (6.2%); and Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other fuels (4.4%) between May 2023 and May 2024. These three divisions account for over 57 per cent of the weights of the 13 broad categories.

The CPI and inflation is generated from data collected through monthly survey of retail prices that targets a representative basket of household consumption goods and services. The data collection is conducted in the second and third weeks of the month from a representative sample of outlets located in 50 data collection zones across the country.

As presented in Table 1 and Table 2, the index increased from 138.40 in April 2024 to 139.85 in May 2024 attributing to monthly inflation of 1.0 per cent.

Table 1: Overall CPI and Rates of Inflation

Month	Base Feb 2019=100	
	Overall CPI	Inflation Rate
May 2023	133.01	8.0
June 2023	134.01	7.9
July 2023	134.15	7.3
August 2023	134.02	6.7
September 2023	135.32	6.8
October 2023	136.71	6.9
November 2023	137.03	6.8
December 2023	137.55	6.6
January 2024	138.15	6.9
February 2024	138.34	6.3
March 2024	138.66	5.7
April 2024	138.40	5.0
May 2024	139.85	5.1

The Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages Index increased by 2.0 per cent between April 2024 and May 2024, as shown in Table 2. The prices of spinach, Kale “sukumawiki”, tomatoes and potatoes(irish) increased by 18.2, 15.0, 14.0 and 6.2 per cent, respectively between April 2024 and May 2024, as shown in Table 3, which details the national average prices of selected items. During the same period, however, as

shown in the same table, the price of maize flour- sifted, fortified maize flour, maize grain-loose and wheat flour- white decreased by 3.2, 2.3, 1.6 and 1.3 per cent, respectively, respectively.

The Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Index increased by 1.2 per cent between April 2024 and May 2024 mainly due to rise in prices of 200 kWh and 50 kWh of electricity by 6.9 per cent and 5.5 per cent, respectively. However, the price of gas/LPG and kerosene dropped by 0.6 per cent and 1.0 per cent, respectively, during the period..

The Transport Index increased by 0.2 per cent between April 2024 and May 2024. However, prices of petrol and diesel dropped by 0.5 per cent and 0.7 per cent, respectively during the same period.

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

	Weight %	% Change on last month (May 2024/ April 2024)	% Change on same month of the previous year (May 2024/May 2023)
13 COICOP Divisions			
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	32.9094	2.0	6.2
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	3.3289	0.6	8.0
Clothing and Footwear	2.9914	0.3	3.8
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	14.6124	1.2	4.4
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	3.7372	0.2	4.1
Health	2.9116	0.1	2.6
Transport	9.6468	0.2	8.1
Information and Communication	7.7840	0.1	1.3
Recreation, Sport and Culture	1.7219	0.3	4.8
Education Services	5.5620	0.0	2.3
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	8.0991	0.4	4.2
Insurance and Financial Services	2.2423	0.1	1.0
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.4532	0.3	5.2
Total	100.0000	1.0	5.1

Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Average Price May 2023	Average Price April 2024	Average Price May 2024	% Change over last month May 2024/ April 2024	% Change over last year May 2024/ May 2023
Maize Flour - Sifted	2	Kg	191.44	142.19	137.70	(3.2)	(28.1)
Fortified Maize flour	2	Kg	214.24	159.01	155.42	(2.3)	(27.5)
Maize Grain - Loose	1	Kg	81.61	62.98	61.94	(1.6)	(24.1)
Wheat Flour-White	2	Kg	200.18	186.03	183.69	(1.3)	(8.2)
Sugar	1	Kg	194.29	173.70	172.72	(0.6)	(11.1)
Beef - With Bones	1	Kg	551.30	625.84	628.50	0.4	14.0
Non Aromatic (Unbroken) White Rice	2	Kg	435.69	465.84	469.69	0.8	7.8
Oranges	1	Kg	78.07	92.07	92.98	1.0	19.1
Beans	1	Kg	188.88	183.51	187.02	1.9	(1.0)
Onion -Leeks and Bulbs	1	Kg	108.58	177.02	182.11	2.9	67.7
Potatoes (Irish)	1	Kg	107.98	111.82	118.74	6.2	10.0
Tomatoes	1	Kg	80.17	91.25	104.00	14.0	29.7
Kale-Sukuma Wiki	1	Kg	58.66	65.13	74.90	15.0	27.7
Spinach	1	Kg	67.51	74.78	88.37	18.2	30.9
Kerosene/Paraffin	1	Litre	161.83	171.18	169.52	(1.0)	4.7
Gas/LPG	13	Kg	3,125.40	3,242.11	3,221.29	(0.6)	3.1
House rent - single room	1	Per Month	3,948.68	4,089.24	4,101.46	0.3	3.9
Charcoal	1	Kg	70.47	79.50	82.32	3.5	16.8
Electricity	50	kWh	1,304.92	1,326.54	1,400.00	5.5	7.3
Electricity	200	kWh	6,436.28	6,297.78	6,730.20	6.9	4.6
Diesel	1	Litre	169.10	181.11	179.91	(0.7)	6.4
Petrol	1	Litre	183.29	194.46	193.46	(0.5)	5.5



Macdonald G. Obudho, PhD, EBS, MBS
DIRECTOR GENERAL

