

CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION RATES FOR MAY 2022

The overall year on year inflation rate as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 7.1 per cent, in May 2022. As presented in Tables 1 and 2, the rise in inflation was mainly due to increase in prices of commodities under; food and non-alcoholic beverages (12.4 per cent); furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance (7.9 per cent); transport (6.4 per cent) and housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (6.0 per cent) between May 2021 and May 2022.

The CPI increased by 0.8 per cent from an index of 122.17 in April 2022 to 123.12 in May 2022. The month-to-month Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages Index increased by 1.3 per cent between April 2022 and May 2022, which was lower than the rise of 3.03 per cent registered between March 2022 and April 2022.

Table 1: Overall CPI and Rates of Inflation

Month	Overall CPI	Base Feb 2019=100
		Inflation Rate
May 2021	114.98	5.9
June 2021	115.11	6.3
July 2021	115.45	6.5
August 2021	115.71	6.6
September 2021	116.08	6.9
October 2021	116.67	6.4
November 2021	117.20	5.8
December 2021	118.27	5.7
January 2022	118.64	5.4
February 2022	119.13	5.1
March 2022	120.14	5.6
April 2022	122.17	6.5
May 2022	123.12	7.1

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

	Weight %	% Change on last month (May 2022/ April 2022)	% Change on same month of the previous year (May 2022/May 2021)
13 COICOP Divisions			
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	32.9094	1.3	12.4
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	3.3289	0.1	3.6
Clothing and Footwear	2.9914	0.2	2.1
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	14.6124	0.6	6.0
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	3.7372	1.0	7.9
Health	2.9116	0.0	1.0
Transport	9.6468	0.8	6.4
Information and Communication	7.7840	0.1	2.4
Recreation, Sport and Culture	1.7219	0.4	2.9
Education Services	5.5620	0.3	1.0
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	8.0991	0.2	2.2
Insurance and Financial Services	2.2423	0.0	0.3
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.4532	0.5	3.0
Total	100.00	0.8	7.1

As shown in Table 3, relative to April 2022, prices of fortified maize flour, cooking fat, cooking oil(salad) and fresh packeted cow milk increased by 6.9, 6.1 5.3 and 3.7 per cent in May 2022, respectively. During the same period, prices of kale (sukuma wiki), spinach and cabbages dropped by 5.0, 4.1 and 4.0 per cent, respectively. There was a notable increase in prices of food items in May 2022, compared with the prices recorded in May 2021.

Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance, increased by 1.0 per cent between April 2022 and May 2022. This was due to an increase in prices of laundry/bar soap and detergents, among other items, as indicated in Table 3

Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Average Price May 2021	Average Price April 2022	Average Price May 2022	% Change over last month May 2022/ April 2022	% Change over last year May 2022/ May2021
Fortified Maize flour	2	Kg	119.20	138.10	147.57	6.9	23.8
Cooking Fat	500	Gram	121.70	165.81	175.94	6.1	44.6
Cooking Oil (Salad)	1	Litre	252.03	351.99	370.71	5.3	47.1
Maize Flour - Loose	1	Kg	50.13	55.13	57.51	4.3	14.7
Fresh packeted cow milk	500	Millilitre	49.26	55.27	57.30	3.7	16.3
Wheat Flour-White	2	Kg	129.15	160.70	165.89	3.2	28.4
White bread	400	Gram	53.86	56.60	58.15	2.7	8.0
Beef - With Bones	1	Kg	470.22	508.49	513.07	0.9	9.1
Cabbages	1	Kg	44.85	53.57	51.44	-4.0	14.7
Spinach	1	Kg	62.17	72.80	69.85	-4.1	12.4
Kale-Sukuma Wiki	1	Kg	53.98	63.55	60.39	-5.0	11.9
House rent - single room	1	Per Month	3,694.71	3813.74	3823.63	0.3	3.5
Electricity	200	Kilowatts	4,752.32	4373.12	4373.12	0.0	-8.0
Electricity	50	Kilowatts	837.18	796.83	796.83	0.0	-4.8
Laundry Soap/Bar Soap	800	Gram	122.04	149.23	153.67	3.0	25.9
Detergents	500	Gram	165.54	187.44	192.95	2.9	16.6
Kerosene/Paraffin	1	Litre	98.78	114.36	119.86	4.8	21.3
Diesel	1	Litre	108.58	126.41	131.91	4.4	21.5
Petrol	1	Litre	127.21	145.44	150.94	3.8	18.7

The Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Index, increased by 0.6 per cent between April 2022 and May 2022. During this period, the price of kerosene rose by 4.8 per cent.

Transport Index increased by 0.8 per cent between April 2022 and May 2022. This was mainly attributed to increase in prices of petrol and diesel that rose by 3.8 per cent and 4.4 per cent, respectively.



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