

**Update on Economic Statistics  
Namibia Consumer Price Index  
15 November 2018**

The Namibia Statistics Agency hereby releases the Consumer Price Index and inflation rate estimates for the month of October 2018.

Based on the October 2018 price movements, the annual inflation rate slowed to 5.1 percent compared to 5.2 percent recorded in October 2017, registering a decrease of 0.1 percentage points. On a monthly basis, the inflation rate stood at 0.4 percent compared to 0.8 percent registered a month earlier.

The slowdown in the annual inflation rate resulted from decelerations registered in the general price levels of Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (from 8.6 percent to 3.8 percent); Hotel, cafes and restaurants (from 6.9 percent to 3.5 percent); Furnishing, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house (from 2.0 percent to 0.9 percent); Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (from 5.7 percent to 4.9 percent); Health (from 5.8 percent to 4.8 percent) and Food and non - alcoholic beverages (from 3.7 percent to 3.0 percent).

During the month of October 2018, the Food and non-alcoholic beverages annual inflation rate stood at 3.0 percent compared to 3.7 percent registered during the same period last year, resulting in a slowdown of 0.7 percentage points. The slowdown resulted from decreases recorded in the sub-groups of Fish (15.2 percent to -6.5 percent); Coffee, tea and cocoa from (7.1 percent to 1.0 percent); Meat (from 9.2 percent to 3.4 percent); Sugar, jam, honey, syrups, chocolate, confectionery (from 6.4 percent to 2.8 percent); and Milk, cheese and eggs (from 3.2 percent to -0.2 percent).

The annual inflation rate for the Transport group for October 2018 stood at 13.6 percent compared to 4.4 percent registered in October 2017, resulting in a significant increase of 9.2 percentage points. The increase resulted from increases witnessed in the price levels of the sub components of Public transport services which increased from (0.0 percent to 18.0 percent) and Operation of personal transport equipment which increased from (4.7 percent to 15.5 percent).

The average annual and average monthly inflation rates from January 2018 to October 2018 stood at 4.1 percent and 0.5 percent. Corresponding rates recorded during the same period a year earlier were estimated as 6.4 percent and 0.4 percent, respectively.

For October 2018 the Index for Goods and Services stood at 136.1 and 132.2 respectively, compared to the corresponding indices of 129.2 and 126.1 recorded during the same period last year. For the month of October 2018, the monthly and annual inflation rates for Goods were 0.6 and 5.3 percent, while Services were estimated at 0.2 and 4.8 percent respectively.

The highest contributors to the October 2018 annual inflation rate were Transport (35.3 percent), Housing, water, electricity and other fuel (21.3 percent), Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (13.2 percent) and Food and non-alcohol beverages (10.5 percent). The rest of the groups contributed 19.7 percent all together.

I would also like to emphasize the importance of accurate and timely data provision from our stakeholders in private and public sectors to the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA), on which compilation of Consumer Price Index and inflation rate depends. Finally, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all the data providers; both institutions and individuals, without whose assistance the publication would not have been possible.



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