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## CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION RATES FOR MAY 2014

Kenya National Bureau of Statistics hereby releases Consumer Price Indices (CPI) and rates of inflation for May 2014. 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 Tables 1 and 2, the CPI increased by 1.01 per cent from 148.20 in April 2014 to 149.70 in May 2014. The overall inflation rate stood at 7.30 per cent in May 2014.

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

| Broad Commodity Group | CPI Weight | % Change on last month (May 2014/ Apr 2014) | % Change on same month of previous year (May 2014/ May 2013) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages | 36.04 | 1.25 | 8.89 |
| Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics | 2.06 | 0.21 | 6.93 |
| Clothing & Footwear | 7.43 | 0.65 | 5.03 |
| Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels | 18.30 | 1.76 | 6.44 |
| Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance | 6.16 | 0.62 | 5.28 |
| Health | 3.13 | 0.45 | 7.05 |
| Transport | 8.66 | 1.43 | 11.37 |
| Communication | 3.82 | 0.16 | -3.00 |
| Recreation & Culture | 2.25 | 0.08 | 12.62 |
| Education | 3.14 | 0.10 | 5.71 |
| Restaurant & Hotels | 4.48 | 0.80 | 7.02 |
| Miscellaneous Goods & Services | 4.52 | 0.35 | 4.48 |
| **Total** | **100.00** | **1.01** | **7.30** |

## Table 2: Overall CPI and Inflation Rates

February 2009=100

| Month | Overall CPI | Overall Rate of Inflation |
|---|---|---|
| May-13 | 139.52 | 4.05 |
| Jun-13 | 139.59 | 4.91 |
| Jul-13 | 139.87 | 6.02 |
| Aug-13 | 140.29 | 6.67 |
| Sep-13 | 142.82 | 8.29 |
| Oct-13 | 142.75 | 7.76 |
| Nov-13 | 143.14 | 7.36 |
| Dec-13 | 143.85 | 7.15 |
| Jan-14 | 145.40 | 7.21 |
| Feb-14 | 145.95 | 6.86 |
| Mar-14 | 146.61 | 6.27 |
| Apr-14 | 148.20 | 6.41 |
| May-14 | 149.70 | 7.30 |

## Table 3: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

| Commodity Name | Units of Measure | Average Price May 2013 | Average Price April 2014 | Average Price May 2014 | % change on last month | % change on same month last year |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wheat Flour | 2 Kg | 141.48 | 137.65 | 141.17 | 2.55 | -0.22 |
| Potatoes (Irish) | 1 Kg | 59.59 | 54.28 | 58.17 | 7.16 | -2.39 |
| Kale-Sukuma Wiki | 1 Kg | 40.13 | 46.97 | 49.89 | 6.22 | 24.32 |
| Beef - With Bones | 1 Kg | 338.41 | 359.90 | 365.13 | 1.45 | 7.89 |
| Onions | 1 Kg | 104.82 | 117.95 | 122.01 | 3.44 | 16.40 |
| Maize Flour - Sifted | 2 Kg | 111.33 | 114.47 | 119.83 | 4.68 | 7.63 |
| Sugar | 1 Kg | 125.61 | 107.88 | 106.82 | -0.98 | -14.96 |
| Fresh Packeted Milk | 500 Ml | 44.76 | 51.94 | 51.74 | -0.39 | 15.61 |
| Electricity | 50 Kwh | 556.00 | 513.7 | 625.2 | 21.71 | 12.45 |
| Charcoal | 4 Kg | 70.55 | 72.99 | 73.27 | 0.39 | 3.86 |
| Petrol | 1 litre | 114.17 | 114.73 | 115.17 | 0.38 | 0.87 |
| Diesel | 1 litre | 101.91 | 105.69 | 106.24 | 0.52 | 4.25 |

During the review period, Food and Non-Alcoholic Drinks' Index increased by 1.25 per cent. There were significant rises in the prices of several food items including Maize Flour, Potatoes and Sukuma Wiki among other food items. These price increases, outweighed falls in the prices of Sugar, Milk and a few other items thereby resulting in an aggregate rise in the food index.

Due to higher costs of common cooking fuels, the Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Index, increased by 1.76 per cent between April and May 2014. In this regard, price increases were recorded in respect of Electricity, Charcoal and Firewood. The cost of electricity in consumption increased mainly on account of fuel cost adjustment which rose from 599 cents in April 2014 to 722 cents per KWh in May 2014. For example, the cost of 50 KWh of electricity increased by 21.71 per cent mainly due to this fuel cost adjustment.

Similarly, over the same period, the Transport Index increased by 1.43 per cent mainly as a result of higher costs of Diesel, Petrol and, Matatu/Bus fares.