

# NCP

Namibia Consumer Price index



#### **Mission Statement**

"Leveraging on partnerships and innovative technologies, to produce and disseminate relevant, quality, timely statistics and spatial data that are fit-forpurpose in accordance with international standards and best practice"



#### **Vision Statement**

"To be a high performance institution in quality statistics delivery"



#### **Core Values**

- 🖌 Integrity
- **Excellent** Performance
- ✓ Accuracy
- ✓ Team Work
- ✓ Accountability
- ✓ Transparency

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# Annual inflation rate went up

Annual inflation rate for May 2019 increased from 3.8 percent to 4.1 percent while on a monthly basis it declined to -0.1 percent from 0.4 percent.

### **Summary Comments**

The month of May 2019 recorded an annual inflation rate of 4.1 percent, a 0.7 percentage points higher than the 3.8 percent registered in May 2018.

The increase resulted mainly from increases registered in: Food and non – alcoholic beverages (from 3.9 percent to 4.4 percent), Education (from 9.9 percent to 12.0 percent), Transport (from 5.6 percent to 7.6 percent), Communications (from -0.1 percent to 1.3 percent), Recreation and culture (from 2.4 percent to 4.5 percent) and Hotels, cafes and restaurants (from 3.3 percent to 4.7 percent).

The twelve months average annual and average monthly inflation rates

from June 2018 to May 2019 stood at 4.6 percent and 0.3 percent. Corresponding rates recorded during the same period a year earlier stood at 4.7 percent and 0.3 percent respectively.

The average annual and average monthly inflation rates for the period January 2019 to May 2019 were estimated as 4.4 percent and 0.3 percent respectively.

#### **NCPI Rebasing**

The NSA planned to rebase the CPI basket based on the 2015/16 Namibia Household Income and Expenditure Survey (NHIES) results. However due to methodological changes in the NHIES 2015/16

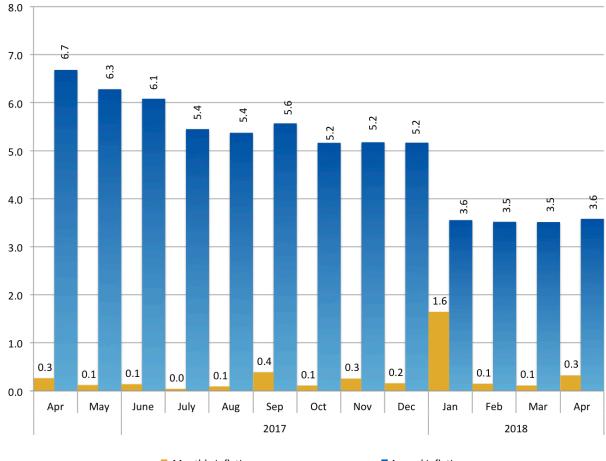
undertaken the rebasing process could not take place. The next NCPI rebasing will be done after conducting the next NHIES.

#### Publication of the Zonal CPIs

The NSA commenced with the publishing and disseminating the April 2019 Zonal CPIs edition in May 2019. The users and general public are hereby alerted to find the May 2019 Zonal CPIs on pages 17 – 20 of this monthly publication.

Alex Shimuafeni Statistician-General & CEO

### **Overall Inflation**



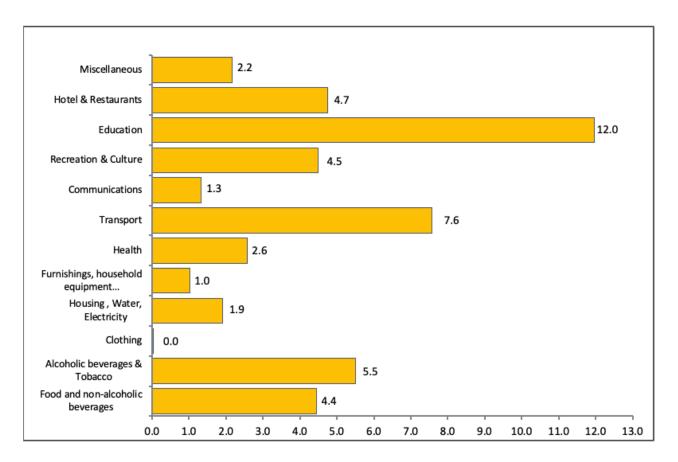
#### Chart 1: NCPI; Monthly and annual percentage changes, May 2019 (Dec 2012 = 100)

Monthly Inflation

Annual inflation

# Main Drivers of Inflation

For May 2019, annual price levels of Education (12.0 percent), Transport (7.6 percent), Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (5.5 percent), Hotels, cafes and restaurants (4.7 percent), Recreation and culture (4.5 percent) and Food and non-alcoholic beverages (4.4 percent) were the main drivers of the annual inflation rate.





# **Box 1: NCPI Basket Weights**

Inflation is calculated based on a basket of goods and services, containing a representative sample of the goods and or services commonly consumed in a country, and weighted in accordance with the relative percentage of expenditure allotted to each of the said goods at household level. The price of these goods and services are then tracked over time, to illustrate the change in the cost of living over time. As spending patterns change, new products and services are added to the basket, and the basket reweighted so as to better capture the current spending patterns of the consumer at the current point in time.

As such, the inflation basket is generally reconstituted every five years. In Namibia, the basket was last rebased in 2013, using household expenditure data collected in the 2009/10 Household Income and Expenditure Survey. The basket now contains over 350 items, grouped into 12 categories and 55 sub-categories, for which prices are collected on a monthly basis from more than 900 retail outlets.

Namibian inflation however, is largely determined by three categories of the overall NCPI basket, namely: (i) Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels, (ii) Food and non-alcoholic beverages and (iii) Transport, which cumulatively make up just under 60 percent of the total inflation basket. Additionally, following the rebasing of the NCPI basket in 2013, "Alcoholic beverages and tobacco" make up an additional 12.6 percent of the basket, meaning that the four largest categories represent well over 70 percent of the total basket. As such, a large increase in inflation in these categories has a greater impact on the overall inflation than do increases in the lower weighted categories. Thus, it is rare to see major increases in overall inflation attributed to the lower weighted categories, despite the fact that these categories may have seen relatively high inflation in their own right.

	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	28.36%
841	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	16.45%
æ	Transport	14.28%
	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	12.59%
f	Furnishings, Household Equipment	5.47%
$\sim$	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	5.39%
ĊŸ	Communication	3.81%
	Education	3.65%
	Recreation and Culture	3.55%
	Clothing and Footwear	3.05%
•\$7	Health	2.01%
	Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	1.39%



### **Major Groups**

### Food and non-alcoholic beverages

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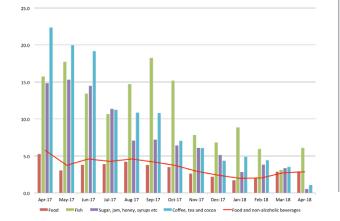


Alcoholic beverages and tobacco

The Food and non – alcoholic beverages annual inflation rate for May 2019 stood at 4.4 percent compared to 3.9 percent registered during the same period last year, resulting in an increase of 0.5 percentage points. The increase in this group emanated mainly from annual price increases recorded in the sub-groups of Vegetables including potatoes and other tubers (from 5.8 percent to 13.3 percent), Sugar, jam, honey, syrups, chocolate and confectionery (from -1.0 percent to 6.2 percent), Bread and cereals (from 2.3 percent to 8.1 percent) and Milk, cheese and eggs (from 0.2 percent to 3.9 percent).

The monthly inflation rate for this category decreased to -0.3 percent from -0.2 percent recorded a month earlier.

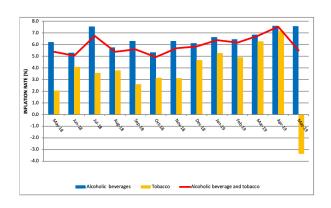
### Chart 3: NCPI; Annual inflation rates for selected food sub-categories, May 2019 (Dec 2012 = 100)



During May 2019 the annual inflation rate for Alcoholic beverages and tobacco stood at 5.5 percent, up from 5.4 percent registered in May of 2018. The upward movement resulted from increases in the level of prices for Alcoholic beverages sub-component.

The monthly inflation rate for this group decreased to -1.2 percent during the month under review from 1.6 percent recorded in April 2019.

Chart 4: NCPI; Annual inflation rate for Alcoholic beverages and tobacco, May 2019 (Dec 2012 = 100)





#### Transport

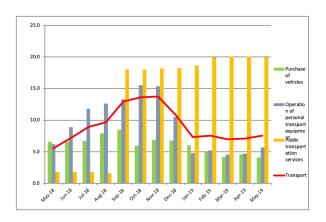


### Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels

For the month of May 2019, the annual inflation rate for Transport increased by 2.0 percentage points to 7.6 percent compared to 5.6 percent recorded during the same period of the previous year. The increase resulted from increases in the price levels of Public transportation services which increased from 1.8 percent to 20.0 percent.

The monthly inflation rate for this group increased from 0.7 percent to 0.8 percent.

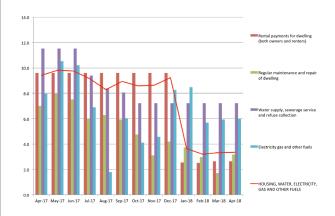
#### Chart 5: NCPI; Annual inflation rate for Transport, May 2019 (Dec 2012 = 100)



The annual inflation rate for Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels for the month of May 2019 stood at 1.9 percent compared to 3.3 percent recorded during the same period a year earlier. The decrease originated from the declines registered in all sub-components of this group, except Regular maintenance and repair of dwelling (both owners and renters) (Chart 6).

On a monthly basis, the inflation rate for this group remained unchanged at 0.0 percent.

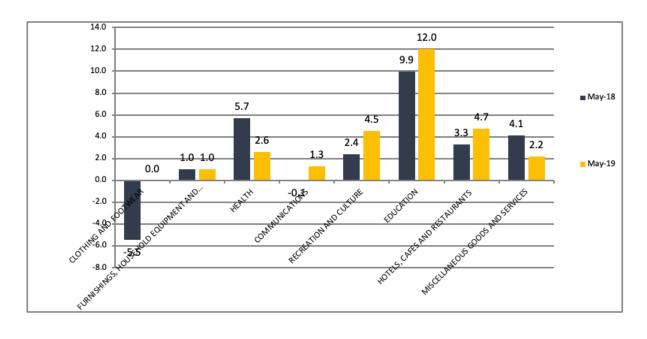
# Chart 6: NCPI; Annual inflation rate for Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels, May 2019 (Dec 2012 = 100)



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### **Minor Groups**

For the minor groups, high annual inflation rates were observed in the groups of Education (12.0 percent), Hotels, cafés and restaurants (4.7 percent), Recreation and culture (4.5 percent), Health (2.6 percent), Miscellaneous goods and services (2.2 percent), Communication (1.3 percent), Furnishing, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house (1.0 percent), while Clothing and footwear still registered the lowest annual inflation rate of 0.01 percent.



#### Chart 7: NCPI; Annual inflation rates for minor groups, May 2019 (Dec 2012 = 100)

### Box 2: Chart of the Month

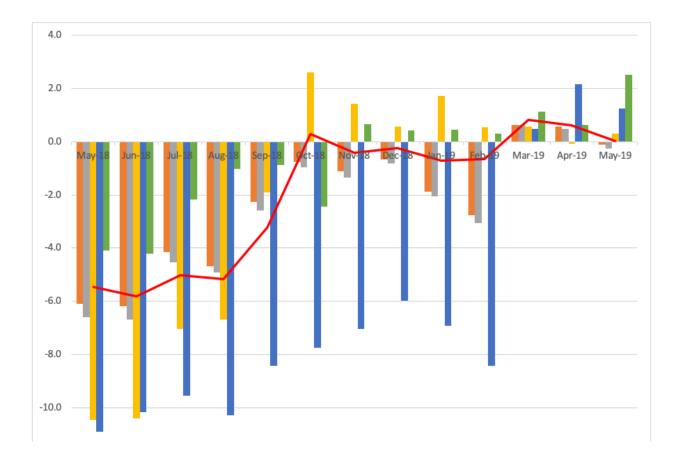


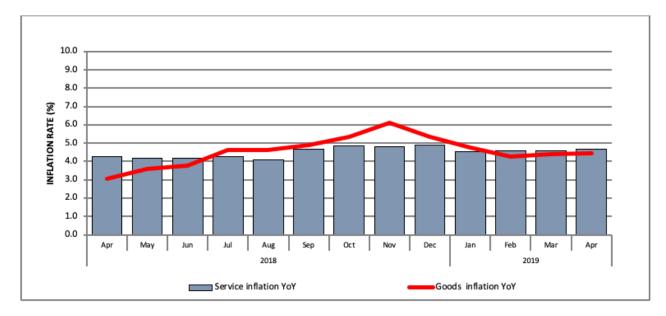
Chart 8: NCPI; Annual inflation rate for Clothing and footwear, May 2019 (Dec 2012 = 100)

The annual inflation rate for Clothing and footwear stood at 0.01 percent in May 2019 compared to -5.5 percent recorded in May 2018. The increase resulted mainly from increases recorded in the price levels of Children's clothing (from -10.9 percent to 1.2 percent), Women's clothing (from -10.5 percent to 0.3 percent), Children's footwear (from -4.1 percent to 2.5 percent), Ready-made clothing (-6.6 percent to -0.3 percent) and Clothing (from -6.1 percent to -0.1 percent).

The monthly inflation rate for this group stood at -0.2 percent, compared to 0.1 percent recorded a month earlier.

### **Goods and Services Inflation**

For the month of May 2019 the Index for Goods and Services stood at 137.8 and 136.3 compared to the corresponding indices of 132.9 and 130.3 recorded during the same period last year respectively. The monthly and annual inflation rates for Goods were -0.1 and 3.7 percent while those of Services stood at 0.03 and 4.6 percent respectively.





Period	Index	m-o-m	у-о-у
Jan-17	126.1	3.2	8.2
Feb-17	126.3	0.2	7.8
Mar-17	126.4	0.1	7.0
Apr-17	126.8	0.3	6.7
May-17	126.9	0.1	6.3
Jun-17	127.1	0.1	6.1
Jul-17	127.1	0.04	5.4
Aug-17	127.3	0.1	5.4
Sep-17	127.8	0.4	5.6
Oct-17	127.9	0.1	5.2
Nov-17	128.2	0.3	5.2
Dec-17	128.4	0.2	5.2
An. Av	127.2	0.4	6.2
Jan-18	130.5	1.6	3.6
Feb-18	130.7	0.1	3.5
Mar-18	130.9	0.1	3.5
Apr-18	131.3	0.3	3.6
May-18	131.8	0.4	3.8
Jun-18	132.1	0.2	4.0
Jul-18	132.8	0.5	4.5
Aug-18	132.9	0.0	4.4
Sep-18	133.9	0.8	4.8
Oct-18	134.4	0.4	5.1
Nov-18	135.4	0.7	5.6
Dec-18	135.0	-0.2	5.1
An. Av	132.6	0.4	4.3
Jan-19	136.6	1.2	4.7
Feb-19	136.5	-0.1	4.4
Mar-19	136.8	0.2	4.5
Apr-19	137.2	0.4	4.5
May-19	137.2	-0.1	4.1

#### Table 1: NCPI: All-Items Index, monthly and annual percentage changes (Dec 2012 =100)

Namibia Consumer Price index - May 2019



#### Table 2: NCPI for April 2018 by main groups and sub-groups (Dec.2012=100)

	` 	СРІ		Inflatio	Inflation Rate	
	Weights	May-18	Apr-19	May- 19	m-o-m	у-о-у
ALL ITEMS	100.00	131.8	137.2	137.2	-0.1	4.1
GOODS	57.7	132.9	138.0	137.8	-0.1	3.7
SERVICES	42.3	130.3	136.3	136.3	0.0	4.6
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	16.45	141.6	148.4	147.9	-0.3	4.4
Food	14.78	142.5	149.7	149.2	-0.4	4.7
Bread and cereals Meat	4.84	129.8 149.8	139.1 151.8	140.2 149.2	0.8 -1.7	8.1 -0.4
Fish	0.81	149.8	151.8	149.2	-1.7	-0.4
Milk, cheese and eggs	1.17	142.3	148.3	147.8	-0.3	3.9
Oils and fats	0.78	133.1	133.7	132.8	-0.7	-0.2
Fruit	0.33	166.6	183.0	181.3	-0.9	8.8
Vegetables including potatoes and other tubers	1.23	155.1	173.9	175.7	1.0	13.3
Sugar, jam, honey, syrups, chocolate and confectionery	1.44	150.4	159.4	159.7	0.2	6.2
Food products n.e.c.	0.65	142.1	143.0	144.6	1.1	1.7
Non-alcoholic beverages	1.66	133.0	135.9	136.3	0.3	2.5
Coffee, tea and cocoa	0.31	163.1	167.2	167.5	0.2	2.7
Mineral waters, soft drinks and juices	1.35	126.1	128.7	129.1	0.3	2.4
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	12.59	141.5	151.0	149.3	-1.2	5.5
Alcoholic beverages	9.99	144.4	154.8	155.4	0.3	7.6
Торассо	2.61	130.3	136.6	125.9	-7.8	-3.4
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	3.05	102.5	102.7	102.5	-0.2	0.0
Clothing	2.04	104.9	105.2	104.8	-0.4	-0.1
Clothing materials	0.07	140.4	146.1	146.1	0.0	4.1
Ready-made clothing	1.93	103.4	103.6	103.1	-0.5	-0.3
Men's clothing	0.58	112.5	111.1	110.1	-0.9	-2.1
Women's clothing	0.70	89.3	88.9	89.6	0.8	0.3
Children's clothing	0.66	108.7	111.3	110.0	-1.2	1.2
Boys' clothing	0.24	107.3	110.4	109.8	-0.5	2.3
Girls' clothing	0.33	108.5	112.9	111.0	-1.7	2.3
Infants' clothing	0.09	114.5	110.0	109.0	-0.9	-4.8
Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	0.05	118.6	115.2	115.5	0.3	-2.7
Dry cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.00	127.3	130.2	130.3	0.1	2.3
Footwear Adult footwear	1.01	97.6	97.7	97.9	0.2	0.3
Children's footwear	0.80	93.0 113.2	92.8 114.2	92.6	-0.2	-0.4
Repair of footwear	0.20	140.6	14.2	116.1 145.3	1.6 0.0	2.5 3.4
Repair of rootwear	0.01	140.0	145.5	143.5	0.0	5.4
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	28.36	131.5	133.9	134.0	0.0	1.9
Rental payments for dwelling (both owners and renters)	23.28	126.7	129.7	129.7	0.0	2.3
Regular maintenance and repair of dwelling	0.19	136.0	139.2	141.1	1.3	3.7
Water supply, sewerage service and refuse collection	1.03	165.1	174.3	174.3	0.0	5.6
Electricity gas and other fuels	3.86	150.8	148.5	148.8	0.2	-1.3

#### Table 2: NCPI for April 2018 by main groups and sub-groups (Dec.2012=100)

InflationWeightsInflationFURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE MAINTENANCE OF THE HOUSENay- 124.6May- 125.8May- 19May- 19May- 19May- 10May- 10Furniture, furnishings, decorations, carpets, floor coverings, incl. repairs5.47124.6125.8125.90.1Furniture and furnishings1.6998.096.496.1-0.3Carpets and other floor coverings1.6998.096.496.1-0.3Carpets and other floor coverings0.00113.5108.7108.80.1Carpets and other floor coverings0.02183.5200.319.0-0.6Household textiles0.0713.00132.7132.90.2Heating and cooking appliances, refrigerators, washing machines and similar major household appliances, etc0.22145.8152.4151.6-0.5	<b>y-o-y</b> <b>1.0</b> -1.8 -1.9 -4.1 8.4
OF THE HOUSE 5.47 124.6 125.8 125.9 0.1   Furniture, furnishings, decorations, carpets, floor coverings, incl. repairs 1.78 99.5 97.9 97.6 -0.3   Furniture and furnishings 1.69 98.0 96.4 96.1 -0.3   Carpets and other floor coverings 0.07 113.5 108.7 108.8 0.1   Repair of furnishings and floor coverings 0.02 183.5 200.3 199.0 -0.6   Household textiles 0.73 130.0 132.7 132.9 0.2   Heating and cooking appliances, refrigerators, washing machines and similar major household appliances, etc 0.92 126.6 126.2 127.0 0.6	-1.8 -1.9 -4.1 8.4
Furniture, furnishings, decorations, carpets, floor coverings, incl. repairs1.7899.597.997.6-0.3Furniture and furnishings1.6998.096.496.1-0.3Carpets and other floor coverings0.07113.5108.7108.80.1Repair of furnishings and floor coverings0.02183.5200.3199.0-0.6Household textiles0.73130.0132.7132.90.2Heating and cooking appliances, refrigerators, washing machines and similar major household appliances, etc0.92126.6126.2127.00.6	-1.9 -4.1 8.4
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Household textiles0.73130.0132.7132.90.2Heating and cooking appliances, refrigerators, washing machines and similar major household appliances, etc0.92126.6126.2127.00.6	
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machines and similar major household appliances, etc 0.92 126.6 126.2 127.0 0.6	2.2
Glassware, tableware and household utensils 0.22 145.8 152.4 151.6 -0.5	0.3
	4.0
Tools and equipment for house and garden 0.43 126.7 128.6 129.6 0.8	2.4
Goods and services for routine household maintenance1.36149.2153.0153.10.1	2.6
HEALTH 2.01 131.8 134.9 135.2 0.2	2.6
Medical products, appliances and equipment0.84126.6129.1129.80.6	2.5
Outpatient Services, medical, dental and paramedical0.98142.3146.50.0	3.0
Hospital services 0.19 100.0 100.0 0.0	0.0
TRANSPORT 14.28 124.7 133.0 134.1 0.8	7.6
Purchase of vehicles 2.88 149.3 156.9 155.3 -1.0	4.1
Operation of personal transport equipment 8.96 119.2 123.7 126.0 1.9	5.7
Public transportation services 2.44 115.7 138.9 138.8 -0.1	20.0
COMMUNICATIONS 3.81 106.8 108.1 108.2 0.1	1.3
RECREATION AND CULTURE 3.55 129.1 133.7 134.9 0.9	4.5
Audio-visual, photographic and data processing equip. incl. repairs 1.16 116.0 120.3 120.8 0.4	4.1
Other major durables for recreation and culture 0.08 132.7 131.6 132.4 0.6	-0.2
Other recreational items and equipment; flowers, gardens and 0.46 127.1 127.0 128.8 1.4 pets	1.4
Recreation and cultural services 0.85 138.5 139.8 141.4 1.1	2.0
Newspapers, books and stationery 0.89 134.5 142.2 143.2 0.7	6.4
Package holidays 0.11 154.7 188.0 191.8 2.0	24.0
EDUCATION 3.65 149.5 167.3 167.3 0.0	12.0
Pre-primary education (ages 2 to 6 years) 0.23 169.2 190.5 190.5 0.0	12.6
Primary (private) and Secondary education (ages 7 to 17 years) 1.44 160.2 177.8 177.8 0.0	11.0
Tertiary education 1.98 139.3 157.0 157.0 0.0	12.7
HOTELS, CAFES AND RESTAURANTS 1.39 141.3 147.5 148.0 0.3	4.7
Catering 0.74 138.1 143.8 144.1 0.2	4.4
Accommodation services 0.65 145.1 151.8 152.5 0.5	5.1
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES 5.39 128.9 131.8 131.7 -0.1	2.2
Personal care 1.41 131.9 136.7 136.2 -0.4	3.2
	2.5
Personal effects n.e.c. 1.03 121.9 125.0 125.0 0.1	
	-10.2
	-10.2 7.1



# Zonal Consumer Price Index Background

Since January 2005, the then Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) under the National Planning Commission (NPC) published a monthly Consumer Price Index known as the Namibia Consumer Price Index (NCPI) replacing the Interim Consumer Price Index (ICPI) which has been in existence since 1993. The Index was known as the Interim Consumer Prices Index-Windhoek and refers to the expenditure patterns of the households which resided in Windhoek. The weights and items were derived from a Household Expenditure Survey covering 800 households conducted during October and November 1985.

The NCPI is designed to cover the entire economic territory of the country and includes national, urban and rural households of all income groups as derived from the Namibia Household Income and Expenditure Survey (NHIES). For the compilation of the National CPI, all administrative regions of the country were grouped into three Zones, with each zone considered as one geographic area as follows:

**Zone 1** covers the expenditure patterns of the regions in the northern part of the country namely Kavango East, Kavango West, Kunene, Ohangwena, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Otjozondjupa and Zambezi. Prices are collected from the following towns: Katima Mulilo (76 retail outlets covering mainly the Central Business District); Oshakati (107 retail outlets covering mainly Game Shopping Center, Yetu Shopping Center, Oshana Mall, Marula Mall and Ongwediva); and Otjiwarongo (114 retail outlets covering mainly the Central Business District, Orwetoveni, and the Industrial Area).

**Zone 2** covers the expenditure patterns of Khomas region and the price collection covers Windhoek (218 retail outlets covering mainly Khomasdal, Katutura, Northern Industrial Area, Southern Industrial Area, Pioneers Park, Hochland Park, Prosperita, Klein Windhoek, Eros and Kleine Kuppe).

**Zone 3** covers the expenditure patterns of //Karas, Erongo, Hardap, and Omaheke regions with prices being collected from Keetmanshoop (86 retail outlets covering mainly Central Business District, West Dene and Tseiblagte); Swakopmund (108 retail outlets covering Central Business District, Mondesa, Tamariskia, Idustrial Area); Mariental (61 retail outlets covering mainly Central Business District and Ombili); as well as Gobabis (59 retail outlets mainly covering the Central Business District), respectively.

The localities identified for price collection were selected based on a mixed criterion of:

(i) the relative importance of the locality as determined by its relative share exceeding 30 percent of the total household expenditure at national level;

(ii) geographic distribution of economic activities; and

(iii) regional capitals.

### Summary comments of Zonal CPIs

### Zone 1 CPI (Northern Part)

For May 2019 the All Items Index increased to 136.3 from 131.9 recorded in May 2018. The annual inflation rate decreased from 4.3 percent in May 2018 to 3.3 percent in May 2019 a decrease of 1.0 percentage points. The decrease resulted mainly from all the groups comprising Zone 1 CPI except Recreation and culture (from 0.5 percent to 5.8 percent), Clothing and footwear (from -7.4 percent to -0.9 percent), Transport (from 4.7 percent to 7.6 percent) and Communications (from -0.01 percent to 1.7 percent).

Period		Monthly Index	Monthly inflation rate	Annual inflation rate
	Jan	130.6	1.6	3.5
	Feb	130.4	-0.1	3.2
	Mar	130.7	0.2	3.4
	Apr	131.1	0.4	3.7
	May	131.9	0.6	4.3
	Jun	131.9	0.0	4.0
2018	Jul	132.8	0.7	4.6
	Aug	132.7	-0.1	4.8
	Sep	133.7	0.8	5.3
	Oct	134.1	0.3	5.2
	Nov	135.6	1.1	5.9
	Dec	134.7	-0.7	4.8
	An. Av	132.5	0.4	4.4
	Jan	136.1	1.0	4.2
	Feb	135.8	-0.2	4.1
	Mar	136.0	0.2	4.1
2019	Apr	136.1	0.1	3.8
	May	136.3	0.1	3.3

On a monthly basis the inflation rate remained unchanged at 0.1 percent

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### Zone 2 CPI (Windhoek Area)

During the month of May 2019, the All Items Index for Zone 2 CPI stood at 133.9 compared to 128.6 recorded during the same period last year. The annual inflation rate stood at 4.1 percent compared to 2.9 percent recorded in May 2018. The increase emanated from increases recorded in the price levels of all groups comprising the Zone 2 CPI with the exception of Clothing and footwear which declined (from -0.1 percent to -2.1 percent), Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (from 3.3 percent to 2.8 percent), Health (from 5.6 percent to 2.6 percent), Miscellaneous goods and services (from 3.8 percent to 1.8 percent) and Transport (from 6.8 percent to 6.7 percent).

On a monthly basis the inflation rate stood at -0.6 percent showing a decrease of 0.8 percentage points compared to 0.2 percent recorded during the previous month.

Per	iod	Monthly Index	Monthly inflation rate	Annual inflation rate
	Jan	127.4	1.4	3.2
	Feb	127.6	0.2	3.2
	Mar	127.8	0.2	3.1
	Apr	128.3	0.4	3.0
	May	128.6	0.2	2.9
	Jun	129.1	0.4	3.2
2018	Jul	129.9	0.6	3.9
	Aug	129.9	0.0	4.4
	Sep	130.9	0.8	4.4
	Oct	131.5	0.4	5.0
	Nov	132.1	0.5	5.1
	Dec	131.9	-0.2	5.0
	An. Av	129.6	0.4	3.9
	Jan	133.7	1.4	4.9
	Feb	133.3	0.0	4.4
2019	Mar	133.7	0.3	4.6
	Apr	134.7	0.8	5.0
	May	133.9	-0.6	4.1

#### Table 2: Zone 2 CPI: All-Items Index, monthly and annual percentage changes (Dec 2012 =100)

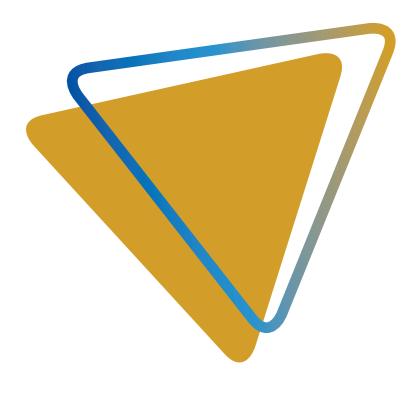
### Zone 3 CPI (Eastern, Southern & Western Parts)

For May 2019, the All Items Index for Zone 3 CPI stood at 144.0 compared to 137.1 recorded during the same period last year. The annual inflation rate for the month of May 2019 remained unchanged at 5.1 percent comparing to May 2018 annual inflation rate, however, noticeable increases were recorded in the price levels of Food and non-alcoholic beverages (from 2.8 percent to 6.8 percent), Communications (from -1.8 percent to 1.9 percent), Clothing and footwear (from 0.4 percent to 4.0 percent) and Transport (from 5.2 percent to 8.8 percent).

On a monthly basis, the inflation rate increased to 0.5 percent compared to 0.1 percent registered last month.

Period		Monthly Index	Monthly inflation rate	Annual inflation rate
	Jan	135.6	2.2	4.5
	Feb	136.3	0.5	4.8
	Mar	136.5	0.1	4.9
	Apr	136.7	0.1	4.8
	May	137.1	0.3	5.1
	Jun	137.6	0.4	5.6
2018	Jul	137.9	0.2	5.6
	Aug	138.3	0.3	5.1
	Sep	139.1	0.6	5.2
	Oct	139.8	0.5	5.9
	Nov	140.5	0.5	6.0
	Dec	140.8	0.2	6.1
	An. Av	138.0	0.5	5.3
	Jan	142.3	1.0	4.9
	Feb	142.9	0.4	4.9
2019	Mar	143.1	0.1	4.9
	Apr	143.3	0.1	4.8
	May	144.0	0.5	5.1

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Namibia Statistics Agency P.O. Box 2133, FGI House, Post Street Mall, Windhoek, Namibia

**Tel:** +264 61 431 3200 **Fax:** +264 61 431 3253







Email: info@nsa.org.na www.nsa.org.na





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