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# Statistical release

## P0141

# Consumer Price Index

## February 2010

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## KEY FINDINGS

The headline CPI (for all urban areas) annual inflation rate in February 2010 was 5,7%. This rate was 0,5 of a percentage point lower than the corresponding annual rate of 6,2% in January 2010. On average, prices increased by 0,6% between January 2010 and February 2010.

The **food and non-alcoholic beverages** index decreased by 0,4% between January 2010 and February 2010. The annual rate decreased to 1,8% in February 2010 from 2,4% in January 2010. The monthly decrease in the food and non-alcoholic beverages index was largely driven by monthly decreases in fruit (-3,2%), vegetables (-1,6%), meat (-0,7%), bread and cereals (-0,3%), milk, eggs and cheese (-0,3%), oils and fats (-0,3%), other food (-0,3%) and fish (-0,2%). These decreases were counteracted by monthly increases in cold beverages (2,9%) and hot beverages (0,1%).

The **clothing and footwear** annual rate decreased to 3,1% in February 2010 from 4,0% in January 2010. The monthly index was unchanged.

The **household contents and services** annual rate decreased to 1,6% in February 2010 from 2,6% in January 2010. The monthly index decreased by 0,2% between January 2010 and February 2010.

The **health** index increased by 5,0% between January 2010 and February 2010, mainly due to an 8,1% monthly increase in medical services. The annual rate decreased to 9,0% in February 2010 from 10,3% in January 2010.

The **transport** annual rate decreased to 5,1% in February 2010 from 6,2% in January 2010. The monthly index increased by 0,7% between January 2010 and February 2010, mainly due to an 18c/l increase in the price of petrol.

The **miscellaneous goods and services** index increased by 3,5% between January 2010 and February 2010, mainly due to a 13,2% monthly increase in health insurance. The annual rate decreased to 8,9% in February 2010 from 9,2% in January 2010.

The provinces with an annual inflation rate lower or equal to headline inflation were Limpopo (4,2%), KwaZulu-Natal (4,4%), Eastern Cape (4,8%), Northern Cape (4,9%), Mpumalanga (5,0%), North West (5,2%) and Free State (5,4%). The provinces with an annual inflation rate higher than headline inflation were Gauteng (5,8%) and Western Cape (6,2%).

## NOTES

### CPI for March 2010

No surveys in addition to the published surveys will be conducted in March 2010.

**P J Lehohla**  
Statistician-General

**TABLES**

**Table A - Consumer Price Index: Indices and percentage changes**

| Index description         |  |   | Weight               | Index (2008=100) |          |          | Percentage change |              |       |
|---------------------------|--|---|----------------------|------------------|----------|----------|-------------------|--------------|-------|
|                           |  |   |                      | Feb 2009         | Jan 2010 | Feb 2010 | Month-on-month    | Year-on-year |       |
| <b>CPI Headline</b>       |  |   | 100,00               | 104,3            | 109,5    | 110,2    | +0,6              | +5,7         |       |
| <b>Analytical series</b>  | <b>CPI per expenditure quintile</b>                          | 1   | 1,78                 | 106,8            | 110,6    | 110,5    | -0,1              | +3,5         |       |
|                           |  | 2   | 3,88                 | 106,7            | 110,9    | 110,8    | -0,1              | +3,8         |       |
|                           |  | 3   | 7,17                 | 106,4            | 110,8    | 110,8    | 0,0               | +4,1         |       |
|                           |  | 4   | 15,61                | 105,3            | 110,2    | 110,5    | +0,3              | +4,9         |       |
|                           |  | 5   | 71,56                | 103,6            | 109,1    | 110,0    | +0,8              | +6,2         |       |
|                           |  | <b>CPI for all goods</b>  |                      | 54,20            | 103,5    | 108,3    | 108,3             | 0,0          | +4,6  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI for durable goods</b>  |                      | 14,79            | 102,1    | 101,9    | 102,1             | +0,2         | 0,0   |
|                           |  | <b>CPI for semi-durable goods</b>   |                      | 6,73             | 103,7    | 106,1    | 105,3             | -0,8         | +1,5  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI for non-durable goods</b>  |                      | 32,68            | 104,0    | 111,6    | 111,7             | +0,1         | +7,4  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI for services</b>   |                      | 45,80            | 105,2    | 111,0    | 112,4             | +1,3         | +6,8  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI for pensioners</b>   |                      | ..               | 105,0    | 110,3    | 111,0             | +0,6         | +5,7  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI for administered prices</b>  | <b>Total</b>         | 14,66            | 95,3     | 107,1    | 107,6             | +0,5         | +12,9 |
|                           |  |   | <b>Regulated</b>     | 9,62             | 92,1     | 104,9    | 105,8             | +0,9         | +14,9 |
|                           |  |   | <b>Not regulated</b> | 5,04             | 101,4    | 111,2    | 111,2             | 0,0          | +9,7  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI for food and non-alcoholic beverages (NAB)</b>                                 |                      | 15,68            | 108,5    | 110,9    | 110,5             | -0,4         | +1,8  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI excluding food and NAB</b>   |                      | 84,32            | 103,5    | 109,2    | 110,1             | +0,8         | +6,4  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI excluding petrol</b>   |                      | 96,07            | 105,6    | 110,4    | 111,0             | +0,5         | +5,1  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI excluding food and NAB and petrol</b>  |                      | 80,39            | 105,0    | 110,3    | 111,1             | +0,7         | +5,8  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI excluding food and NAB, petrol, VAT, assessment rates, and finance charges</b> |                      | 77,05            | 105,0    | 110,2    | 111,0             | +0,7         | +5,7  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI excluding housing</b>  |                      | 77,44            | 104,2    | 108,9    | 109,7             | +0,7         | +5,3  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI excluding petrol and energy</b>  |                      | 94,39            | 105,4    | 109,8    | 110,4             | +0,5         | +4,7  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI excluding energy</b>   |                      | 98,32            | 104,1    | 108,9    | 109,5             | +0,6         | +5,2  |
|                           |  | <b>CPI excluding food and NAB, petrol and energy</b>                                  |                      | 78,71            | 104,8    | 109,6    | 110,4             | +0,7         | +5,3  |
|                           | <b>CPI excluding owners' equivalent rent</b>                 |   | 87,79                | 104,4            | 109,8    | 110,5    | +0,6              | +5,8         |       |
|                           | <b>CPI excluding administered prices</b>                     |   | 85,34                | 105,8            | 109,9    | 110,6    | +0,6              | +4,5         |       |
|                           | <b>CPI administered prices excluding petrol and paraffin</b> |   | 10,57                | 103,7            | 114,9    | 114,9    | 0,0               | +10,8        |       |
| <b>Geographic indices</b> | <b>CPI for primary urban areas</b>                           |   | 62,76                | 104,1            | 109,4    | 110,1    | +0,6              | +5,8         |       |
|                           | <b>CPI for secondary urban areas</b>                         |   | 20,33                | 104,6            | 109,7    | 110,4    | +0,6              | +5,5         |       |
|                           | <b>CPI for rural areas [1]</b>                               |   | 16,91                | 105,6            | 109,3    | 109,6    | +0,3              | +3,8         |       |
|                           | <b>CPI for total country</b>                                 |   | 100,00               | 104,5            | 109,5    | 110,1    | +0,5              | +5,4         |       |
|                           | <b>CPI per province</b>                                      | <b>Western Cape</b>   |                      | 18,33            | 104,0    | 110,0    | 110,4             | +0,4         | +6,2  |
|                           |  | <b>Eastern Cape</b>   |                      | 9,91             | 105,1    | 109,6    | 110,1             | +0,5         | +4,8  |
|                           |  | <b>Northern Cape</b>  |                      | 1,66             | 104,2    | 108,8    | 109,3             | +0,5         | +4,9  |
|                           |  | <b>Free State</b>   |                      | 6,45             | 104,5    | 109,3    | 110,1             | +0,7         | +5,4  |
|                           |  | <b>KwaZulu-Natal</b>  |                      | 14,08            | 105,3    | 109,5    | 109,9             | +0,4         | +4,4  |
|                           |  | <b>North West</b>   |                      | 5,79             | 104,6    | 109,1    | 110,0             | +0,8         | +5,2  |
| <b>Gauteng</b>            |  |   | 32,77                | 104,0            | 109,3    | 110,0    | +0,6              | +5,8         |       |
| <b>Mpumalanga</b>         |  |   | 5,47                 | 105,7            | 110,4    | 111,0    | +0,5              | +5,0         |       |
|                           | <b>Limpopo</b>   |   | 5,54                 | 104,7            | 108,5    | 109,1    | +0,6              | +4,2         |       |

[1] The CPI for rural areas uses weights for rural areas but prices from secondary areas.

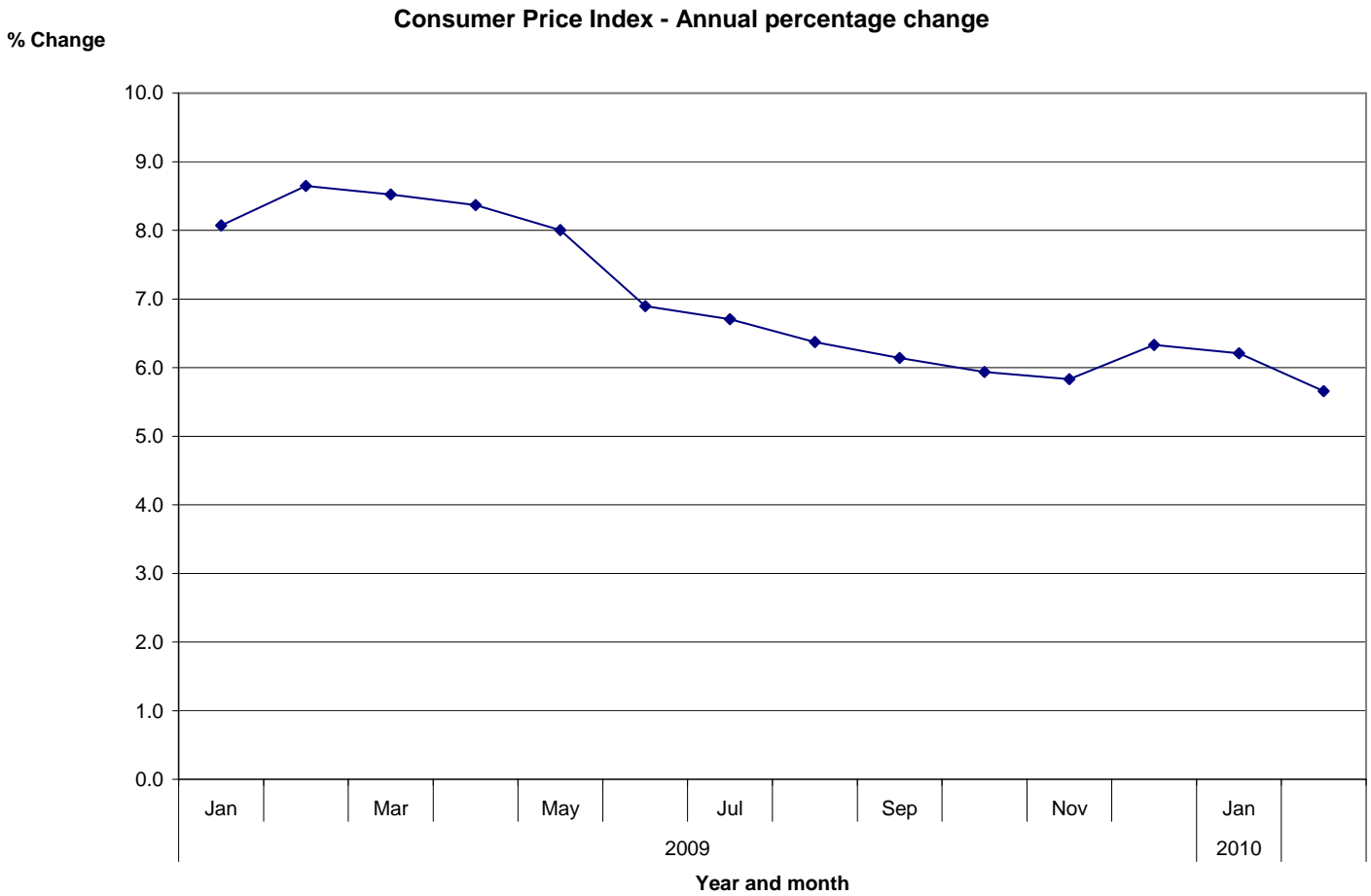
Note: Unless otherwise stated all tables refer to all urban areas.

**Table B - Consumer Price Index: Index numbers and year-on-year rates**

**Base year: 2008=100**

|              | Jan   | Feb   | Mar   | Apr   | May   | Jun   | Jul   | Aug   | Sep   | Oct   | Nov   | Dec   | Average [1] |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|
| <b>Year</b>  |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             |
| <b>2008</b>  |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             |
| <b>Index</b> | 95,4  | 96,0  | 97,4  | 98,0  | 98,7  | 100,1 | 101,4 | 102,0 | 102,6 | 102,8 | 102,9 | 102,7 | 100,0       |
| <b>Rate</b>  | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..          |
| <b>2009</b>  |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             |
| <b>Index</b> | 103,1 | 104,3 | 105,7 | 106,2 | 106,6 | 107,0 | 108,2 | 108,5 | 108,9 | 108,9 | 108,9 | 109,2 | 107,1       |
| <b>Rate</b>  | 8,1   | 8,6   | 8,5   | 8,4   | 8,0   | 6,9   | 6,7   | 6,4   | 6,1   | 5,9   | 5,8   | 6,3   | 7,1         |
| <b>2010</b>  |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |             |
| <b>Index</b> | 109,5 | 110,2 | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..          |
| <b>Rate</b>  | 6,2   | 5,7   | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..    | ..          |

[1] Annual average.



**Table C - Contribution of different groups to the annual percentage change in the CPI**

| Product group                    | Contribution |          |
|----------------------------------|--------------|----------|
|                                  | Jan 2010     | Feb 2010 |
| Food and non-alcoholic beverages | +0,4         | +0,3     |
| Alcoholic beverages and tobacco  | +0,6         | +0,6     |
| Clothing and footwear            | +0,2         | +0,1     |
| Housing and utilities            | +1,6         | +1,6     |
| Household contents and services  | +0,2         | +0,1     |
| Health                           | +0,1         | +0,1     |
| Transport                        | +1,1         | +0,9     |
| Recreation and culture           | +0,3         | +0,3     |
| Education                        | +0,2         | +0,2     |
| Restaurants and hotels           | +0,2         | +0,2     |
| Miscellaneous goods and services | +1,3         | +1,3     |
| All Items                        | +6,2         | +5,7     |

**Table D - Contribution of different groups to the monthly percentage change in the CPI**

| Product group                    | Contribution |          |
|----------------------------------|--------------|----------|
|                                  | Jan 2010     | Feb 2010 |
| Food and non-alcoholic beverages | +0,1         | -0,1     |
| Health                           | 0,0          | +0,1     |
| Transport                        | -0,1         | +0,1     |
| Miscellaneous goods and services | +0,2         | +0,5     |
| Residual                         | +0,1         | 0,0      |
| All Items                        | +0,3         | +0,6     |

**Table E - Consumer Price Index: Group and product indices and percentage changes**

| Index description                                     | Weight | Index (2008=100) |          |          | Percentage change |              |
|---|--------|------------------|----------|----------|-------------------|--------------|
|   |        | Feb 2009         | Jan 2010 | Feb 2010 | Month-on-month    | Year-on-year |
| <b>All Items</b>                                      | 100,00 | 104,3            | 109,5    | 110,2    | +0,6              | +5,7         |
| <b>Food and non-alcoholic beverages</b>               | 15,68  | 108,5            | 110,9    | 110,5    | -0,4              | +1,8         |
| <b>Food</b>   | 14,27  | 108,5            | 110,3    | 109,6    | -0,6              | +1,0         |
| <b>Processed</b>                                      | 6,79   | 108,0            | 110,4    | 110,4    | 0,0               | +2,2         |
| <b>Unprocessed</b>                                    | 7,48   | 108,9            | 110,2    | 108,7    | -1,4              | -0,2         |
| <b>Bread and cereals</b>                              | 3,08   | 108,6            | 105,7    | 105,4    | -0,3              | -2,9         |
| <b>Meat</b>   | 4,59   | 106,8            | 107,8    | 107,0    | -0,7              | +0,2         |
| <b>Fish</b>   | 0,66   | 110,9            | 115,7    | 115,5    | -0,2              | +4,1         |
| <b>Milk, eggs and cheese</b>                          | 1,79   | 106,5            | 114,3    | 113,9    | -0,3              | +6,9         |
| <b>Oils and fats</b>                                  | 0,53   | 104,9            | 91,3     | 91,0     | -0,3              | -13,3        |
| <b>Fruit</b>  | 0,47   | 110,3            | 123,1    | 119,2    | -3,2              | +8,1         |
| <b>Vegetables</b>                                     | 1,63   | 115,2            | 116,4    | 114,5    | -1,6              | -0,6         |
| <b>Sugar, sweets and desserts</b>                     | 0,77   | 107,2            | 114,8    | 114,8    | 0,0               | +7,1         |
| <b>Other food</b>                                     | 0,75   | 109,4            | 117,7    | 117,3    | -0,3              | +7,2         |
| <b>Non-alcoholic beverages</b>                        | 1,41   | 108,9            | 117,4    | 119,9    | +2,1              | +10,1        |
| <b>Hot beverages</b>                                  | 0,34   | 112,8            | 125,8    | 125,9    | +0,1              | +11,6        |
| <b>Cold beverages</b>                                 | 1,07   | 107,8            | 114,8    | 118,1    | +2,9              | +9,6         |
| <b>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco</b>                | 5,58   | 104,5            | 115,1    | 115,1    | 0,0               | +10,1        |
| <b>Alcoholic beverages</b>                            | 3,29   | 103,2            | 110,0    | 110,1    | +0,1              | +6,7         |
| <b>Spirits</b>  | 0,94   | 104,1            | 112,3    | 112,3    | 0,0               | +7,9         |
| <b>Wine</b>   | 0,72   | 102,7            | 110,1    | 110,3    | +0,2              | +7,4         |
| <b>Beer</b>   | 1,63   | 102,9            | 108,5    | 108,7    | +0,2              | +5,6         |
| <b>Tobacco</b>  | 2,29   | 106,4            | 122,4    | 122,3    | -0,1              | +14,9        |
| <b>Clothing and footwear</b>                          | 4,11   | 103,3            | 106,5    | 106,5    | 0,0               | +3,1         |
| <b>Clothing</b>                                       | 2,90   | 103,6            | 106,9    | 106,9    | 0,0               | +3,2         |
| <b>Footwear</b>                                       | 1,21   | 102,6            | 105,6    | 105,8    | +0,2              | +3,1         |
| <b>Housing and utilities</b>                          | 22,56  | 104,4            | 111,7    | 111,7    | 0,0               | +7,0         |
| <b>Actual rentals for housing</b>                     | 3,49   | 103,6            | 108,7    | 108,7    | 0,0               | +4,9         |
| <b>Owners' equivalent rent</b>                        | 12,21  | 103,1            | 107,5    | 107,5    | 0,0               | +4,3         |
| <b>Maintenance and repair</b>                         | 1,68   | 109,4            | 114,6    | 114,8    | +0,2              | +4,9         |
| <b>Water and other services</b>                       | 3,31   | 102,3            | 111,9    | 111,9    | 0,0               | +9,4         |
| <b>Electricity and other fuels</b>                    | 1,87   | 113,7            | 141,1    | 141,1    | 0,0               | +24,1        |
| <b>Household contents and services</b>                | 5,86   | 104,4            | 106,3    | 106,1    | -0,2              | +1,6         |
| <b>Furnishings, floor coverings and textiles</b>      | 2,17   | 101,2            | 98,3     | 97,8     | -0,5              | -3,4         |
| <b>Appliances, tableware and equipment</b>            | 1,05   | 111,0            | 110,6    | 109,7    | -0,8              | -1,2         |
| <b>Supplies and services</b>                          | 2,64   | 104,4            | 111,2    | 111,4    | +0,2              | +6,7         |
| <b>Domestic workers' wages</b>                        | 1,99   | 103,3            | 109,7    | 109,7    | 0,0               | +6,2         |
| <b>Health</b>   | 1,47   | 108,3            | 112,5    | 118,1    | +5,0              | +9,0         |
| <b>Medical products</b>                               | 0,57   | 104,5            | 114,9    | 115,1    | +0,2              | +10,1        |
| <b>Medical services</b>                               | 0,90   | 110,7            | 111,0    | 120,0    | +8,1              | +8,4         |
| <b>Transport</b>                                      | 18,80  | 96,6             | 100,8    | 101,5    | +0,7              | +5,1         |
| <b>Purchase of vehicles</b>                           | 11,25  | 101,5            | 102,6    | 103,0    | +0,4              | +1,5         |
| <b>Private transport operation</b>                    | 4,82   | 79,3             | 92,3     | 94,0     | +1,8              | +18,5        |
| <b>Petrol</b>   | 3,93   | 72,8             | 86,8     | 88,9     | +2,4              | +22,1        |
| <b>Other running costs</b>                            | 0,89   | 107,8            | 116,1    | 116,6    | +0,4              | +8,2         |
| <b>Public transport</b>                               | 2,73   | 107,1            | 108,3    | 108,4    | +0,1              | +1,2         |
| <b>Communication</b>                                  | 3,22   | 100,6            | 100,6    | 100,5    | -0,1              | -0,1         |
| <b>Postal services and telecommunication services</b> | 2,90   | 101,0            | 103,3    | 103,3    | 0,0               | +2,3         |
| <b>Telecommunication equipment</b>                    | 0,32   | 96,9             | 76,8     | 75,6     | -1,6              | -22,0        |
| <b>Recreation and culture</b>                         | 4,19   | 106,0            | 113,5    | 112,6    | -0,8              | +6,2         |
| <b>Recreational equipment</b>                         | 2,23   | 106,7            | 107,9    | 107,2    | -0,6              | +0,5         |
| <b>Recreational and cultural services</b>             | 1,25   | 104,5            | 123,5    | 122,8    | -0,6              | +17,5        |
| <b>Books, newspapers and stationery</b>               | 0,71   | 106,0            | 113,5    | 111,9    | -1,4              | +5,6         |
| <b>Education</b>                                      | 2,19   | 101,1            | 111,7    | 111,7    | 0,0               | +10,5        |
| <b>Primary and secondary education</b>                | 1,29   | 101,1            | 113,1    | 113,1    | 0,0               | +11,9        |

| Index description                       |                           | Weight | Index (2008=100) |          |          | Percentage change |              |
|---|---------------------------|--------|------------------|----------|----------|-------------------|--------------|
|   |                           |        | Feb 2009         | Jan 2010 | Feb 2010 | Month-on-month    | Year-on-year |
|   | <b>Tertiary</b>           | 0,90   | 101,1            | 109,6    | 109,6    | 0,0               | +8,4         |
| <b>Restaurants and hotels</b>           |                           | 2,78   | 107,5            | 115,4    | 116,0    | +0,5              | +7,9         |
|   | <b>Restaurants</b>        | 1,85   | 107,5            | 115,5    | 115,9    | +0,3              | +7,8         |
|   | <b>Hotels</b>             | 0,93   | 107,6            | 115,3    | 116,1    | +0,7              | +7,9         |
| <b>Miscellaneous goods and services</b> |                           | 13,56  | 109,6            | 115,4    | 119,4    | +3,5              | +8,9         |
|   | <b>Personal care</b>      | 2,20   | 109,0            | 116,4    | 116,2    | -0,2              | +6,6         |
|   | <b>Insurance</b>          | 7,71   | 108,0            | 113,3    | 120,4    | +6,3              | +11,5        |
|   | <b>Financial services</b> | 1,27   | 111,6            | 119,4    | 119,4    | 0,0               | +7,0         |
|   | <b>Other services</b>     | 2,38   | 114,5            | 119,1    | 119,1    | 0,0               | +4,0         |

## GLOSSARY

A complete set of definitions is available in the methods and sources document on the Stats SA website <http://www.statssa.gov.za>

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Annual inflation rate</b>            | The annual inflation rate is the change in the CPI for all items of the relevant month of the current year compared with the CPI for all items of the same month in the previous year expressed as a percentage.   |
| <b>Annual percentage change</b>         | The annual percentage change is the change in the index of the relevant month of the current year compared with the index of the same month in the previous year expressed as a percentage.  |
| <b>Average annual inflation rate</b>    | The average annual inflation rate is the change in the average CPI for all items of one year compared with the average CPI for all items of the previous year expressed as a percentage.   |
| <b>Average annual percentage change</b> | The average annual percentage change is the change in the average index of one year compared with the average index of the previous year expressed as a percentage.  |
| <b>CPI for administered prices</b>      | An administered price is defined as the price of a product which is set consciously by an individual producer or group of producers and/or any price which can be determined or influenced by government, either directly or through a government agency/institution without reference to market forces. Products and services included are assessment rates, sanitary fees, refuse removal, water, electricity, paraffin, petrol, public transport – trains, motor licences, motor registration, telephone fees, postage, cell calls, television licence, school fees, university/technicons/colleges and university boarding fees. |
| <b>CPI for regulated prices</b>         | Regulated prices are those administered prices that are monitored and controlled by government policy. To this end, price regulation does not necessarily imply the presence of an economic regulator, but the restriction on the extent to which prices may vary, depending on government's policy objective. Products and services included are water, electricity, paraffin, petrol, telephone fees, postage and cell calls.  |
| <b>Inflation rate</b>                   | The inflation rate is the change in the CPI for all items of the relevant month of the current year compared with the CPI for all items of the same month in the previous year expressed as a percentage.  |
| <b>Monthly percentage change</b>        | The monthly percentage change is the change in the CPI of the relevant month compared with the CPI of the previous month expressed as a percentage.  |
| <b>CPI per expenditure quintile</b>     | quintile 1 - up to R 14 564;<br>quintile 2 - R 14 565 up to R 23 278;<br>quintile 3 - R 23 279 up to R 36 755;<br>quintile 4 - R 36 756 up to R 79 152; and<br>quintile 5 - R 79 153 and more.   |



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#### Forthcoming issues

| Issue       | Expected date for publication |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| March 2010  | 28 April 2010                 |
| April 2010  | 26 May 2010                   |
| May 2010    | 23 June 2010                  |
| June 2010   | 28 July 2010                  |
| July 2010   | 25 August 2010                |
| August 2010 | 29 September 2010             |

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