



**Statistics
South Africa**

Preferred supplier of quality statistics



Statistical release

P0141

Consumer Price Index

March 2010

**Embargoed until:
28 April 2010
11:30**

Enquiries:

User information services
Tel: (012) 310 8600 / 4892/ 8390

Forthcoming issue:

April 2010

Expected release date

26 May 2010

KEY FINDINGS

The headline CPI (for all urban areas) annual inflation rate in March 2010 was 5,1%. This rate was 0,6 of a percentage point lower than the corresponding annual rate of 5,7% in February 2010. On average, prices increased by 0,8% between February 2010 and March 2010.

The **food and non-alcoholic beverages** index decreased by 0,1% between February 2010 and March 2010. The annual rate decreased to 1,3% in March 2010 from 1,8% in February 2010. The monthly decrease in the food and non-alcoholic beverages index was largely driven by monthly decreases in vegetables (-2,1%), oils and fats (-0,5%), bread and cereals (-0,3%) and hot beverages (-0,2%). These decreases were counteracted by monthly increases in sugar, sweets and desserts (3,6%), other food (0,5%), cold beverages (0,5%) and fish (0,1%).

The **housing and utilities** index increased by 0,6% between February 2010 and March 2010. The annual rate decreased to 6,9% in March 2010 from 7,0% in February 2010.

The **transport** annual rate decreased to 4,2% in March 2010 from 5,1% in February 2010. The index increased by 0,4% between February 2010 and March 2010, mainly due to a 6c/l increase in the price of petrol.

The **recreation and culture** annual rate decreased to 2,3% in March 2010 from 6,2% in February 2010. The index increased by 0,9% between February 2010 and March 2010.

The **miscellaneous goods and services** annual rate decreased to 8,7% in March 2010 from 8,9% in February 2010. The index increased by 0,5% between February 2010 and March 2010, mainly due to an 11,8% increase in motor vehicle insurance.

The **alcoholic beverages and tobacco** index increased by 5,7% between February 2010 and March 2010, mainly due to increases in excise duties.

The **education** index increased by 9,2% between February 2010 and March 2010.

The provinces with an annual inflation rate lower or equal to headline inflation were KwaZulu-Natal (3,9%), North West (3,9%), Limpopo (4,0%), Eastern Cape (4,3%), Northern Cape (4,4%), Mpumalanga (4,5%) and Free State (4,7%). The provinces with an annual inflation rate higher than headline inflation were Gauteng (5,2%) and Western Cape (5,7%).

NOTES

CPI for April 2010

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

P J Lehohla
Statistician-General

TABLES

Table A - Consumer Price Index: Indices and percentage changes

Index description			Weight	Index (2008=100)			Percentage change		
				Mar 2009	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Month-on-month	Year-on-year	
CPI Headline			100,00	105,7	110,2	111,1	+0,8	+5,1	
Analytical series	CPI per expenditure quintile	1	1,78	107,9	110,5	111,0	+0,5	+2,9	
		2	3,88	107,8	110,8	111,4	+0,5	+3,3	
		3	7,17	107,7	110,8	111,6	+0,7	+3,6	
		4	15,61	106,7	110,5	111,5	+0,9	+4,5	
		5	71,56	105,2	110,0	111,0	+0,9	+5,5	
		CPI for all goods		54,20	104,9	108,3	109,1	+0,7	+4,0
		CPI for durable goods		14,79	102,4	102,1	102,1	0,0	-0,3
		CPI for semi-durable goods		6,73	104,5	105,3	106,0	+0,7	+1,4
		CPI for non-durable goods		32,68	106,1	111,7	112,9	+1,1	+6,4
		CPI for services		45,80	106,7	112,4	113,6	+1,1	+6,5
		CPI for pensioners		..	106,3	111,0	111,9	+0,8	+5,3
		CPI for administered prices	Total	14,66	98,4	107,6	109,4	+1,7	+11,2
			Regulated	9,62	94,2	105,8	105,8	0,0	+12,3
			Not regulated	5,04	106,6	111,2	116,3	+4,6	+9,1
		CPI for food and non-alcoholic beverages (NAB)		15,68	109,0	110,5	110,4	-0,1	+1,3
		CPI excluding food and NAB		84,32	105,1	110,1	111,3	+1,1	+5,9
		CPI excluding petrol		96,07	106,9	111,0	112,0	+0,9	+4,8
		CPI excluding food and NAB and petrol		80,39	106,5	111,1	112,3	+1,1	+5,4
		CPI excluding food and NAB, petrol, VAT, assessment rates, and finance charges		77,05	106,5	111,0	112,3	+1,2	+5,4
		CPI excluding housing		77,44	105,9	109,7	110,8	+1,0	+4,6
		CPI excluding petrol and energy		94,39	106,7	110,4	111,4	+0,9	+4,4
		CPI excluding energy		98,32	105,6	109,5	110,5	+0,9	+4,6
		CPI excluding food and NAB, petrol and energy		78,71	106,3	110,4	111,6	+1,1	+5,0
	CPI excluding owners' equivalent rent		87,79	106,0	110,5	111,5	+0,9	+5,2	
	CPI excluding administered prices		85,34	107,0	110,6	111,4	+0,7	+4,1	
	CPI administered prices excluding petrol and paraffin		10,57	106,1	114,9	117,1	+1,9	+10,4	
Geographic indices	CPI for primary urban areas		62,76	105,6	110,1	111,1	+0,9	+5,2	
	CPI for secondary urban areas		20,33	106,1	110,4	111,2	+0,7	+4,8	
	CPI for rural areas [1]		16,91	106,9	109,6	110,4	+0,7	+3,3	
	CPI for total country		100,00	105,9	110,1	111,0	+0,8	+4,8	
	CPI per province	Western Cape		18,33	105,6	110,4	111,6	+1,1	+5,7
		Eastern Cape		9,91	106,4	110,1	111,0	+0,8	+4,3
		Northern Cape		1,66	105,4	109,3	110,0	+0,6	+4,4
		Free State		6,45	105,8	110,1	110,8	+0,6	+4,7
		KwaZulu-Natal		14,08	106,5	109,9	110,7	+0,7	+3,9
		North West		5,79	106,5	110,0	110,7	+0,6	+3,9
Gauteng			32,77	105,5	110,0	111,0	+0,9	+5,2	
Mpumalanga			5,47	106,9	111,0	111,7	+0,6	+4,5	
	Limpopo		5,54	106,1	109,1	110,3	+1,1	+4,0	

[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]
Year													
2008													
Index	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
Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2009													
Index	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
Rate	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
2010													
Index	109,5	110,2	111,1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rate	6,2	5,7	5,1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

[1] Annual average.

CPI headline: Index numbers and annual inflation rate

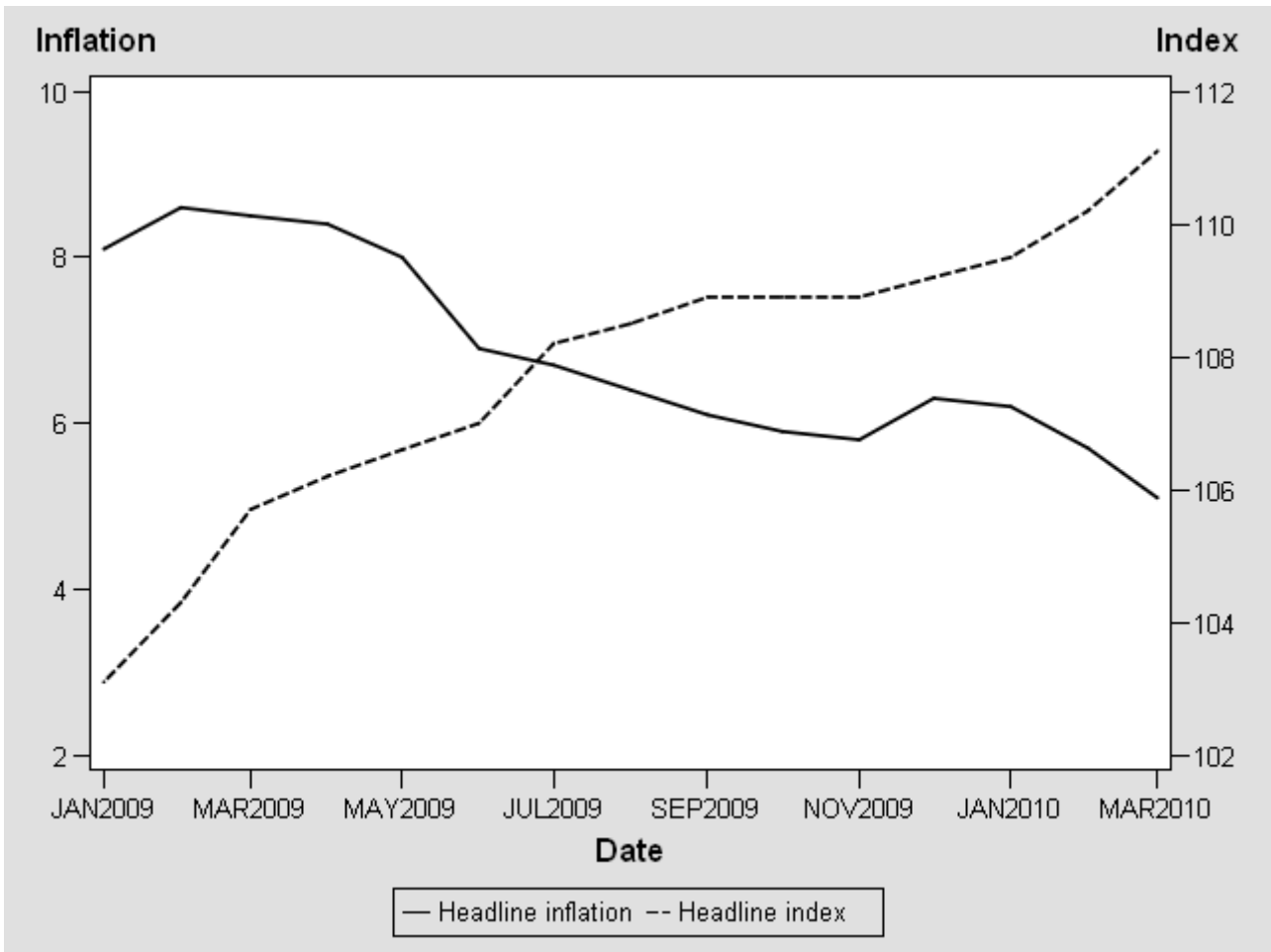


Table C - Contribution of different groups to the annual percentage change in the CPI

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

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

Product group	Contribution	
	Feb 2010	Mar 2010
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	-0,1	0,0
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	0,0	+0,3
Housing and utilities	0,0	+0,1
Health	+0,1	0,0
Transport	+0,1	+0,1
Education	0,0	+0,2
Miscellaneous goods and services	+0,5	+0,1
All Items	+0,6	+0,8

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

Index description		Weight	Index (2008=100)			Percentage change	
			Mar 2009	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Month-on-month	Year-on-year
All Items		100,00	105,7	110,2	111,1	+0,8	+5,1
Food and non-alcoholic beverages		15,68	109,0	110,5	110,4	-0,1	+1,3
	Food	14,27	108,9	109,6	109,4	-0,2	+0,5
	Processed	6,79	108,1	110,4	110,9	+0,5	+2,6
	Unprocessed	7,48	109,6	108,7	108,1	-0,6	-1,4
	Bread and cereals	3,08	108,4	105,4	105,1	-0,3	-3,0
	Meat	4,59	107,7	107,0	107,0	0,0	-0,6
	Fish	0,66	110,4	115,5	115,6	+0,1	+4,7
	Milk, eggs and cheese	1,79	108,2	113,9	113,9	0,0	+5,3
	Oils and fats	0,53	102,0	91,0	90,5	-0,5	-11,3
	Fruit	0,47	113,3	119,2	119,2	0,0	+5,2
	Vegetables	1,63	113,5	114,5	112,1	-2,1	-1,2
	Sugar, sweets and desserts	0,77	109,2	114,8	118,9	+3,6	+8,9
	Other food	0,75	110,4	117,3	117,9	+0,5	+6,8
	Non-alcoholic beverages	1,41	110,2	119,9	120,3	+0,3	+9,2
	Hot beverages	0,34	116,6	125,9	125,6	-0,2	+7,7
Cold beverages	1,07	108,2	118,1	118,7	+0,5	+9,7	
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco		5,58	109,4	115,1	121,7	+5,7	+11,2
	Alcoholic beverages	3,29	108,2	110,1	115,5	+4,9	+6,7
	Spirits	0,94	109,4	112,3	116,3	+3,6	+6,3
	Wine	0,72	106,6	110,3	113,9	+3,3	+6,8
	Beer	1,63	108,2	108,7	115,7	+6,4	+6,9
Tobacco	2,29	111,2	122,3	130,5	+6,7	+17,4	
Clothing and footwear		4,11	103,9	106,5	106,6	+0,1	+2,6
	Clothing	2,90	104,2	106,9	106,9	0,0	+2,6
	Footwear	1,21	103,1	105,8	105,8	0,0	+2,6
Housing and utilities		22,56	105,1	111,7	112,4	+0,6	+6,9
	Actual rentals for housing	3,49	104,7	108,7	109,8	+1,0	+4,9
	Owners' equivalent rent	12,21	104,1	107,5	108,5	+0,9	+4,2
	Maintenance and repair	1,68	109,6	114,8	115,1	+0,3	+5,0
	Water and other services	3,31	102,3	111,9	111,9	0,0	+9,4
	Electricity and other fuels	1,87	113,7	141,1	141,1	0,0	+24,1
Household contents and services		5,86	105,4	106,1	106,4	+0,3	+0,9
	Furnishings, floor coverings and textiles	2,17	100,9	97,8	97,4	-0,4	-3,5
	Appliances, tableware and equipment	1,05	112,5	109,7	109,8	+0,1	-2,4
	Supplies and services	2,64	106,3	111,4	112,3	+0,8	+5,6
	Domestic workers' wages	1,99	104,2	109,7	110,8	+1,0	+6,3
Health		1,47	110,8	118,1	118,6	+0,4	+7,0
	Medical products	0,57	111,0	115,1	116,4	+1,1	+4,9
	Medical services	0,90	110,7	120,0	120,0	0,0	+8,4
Transport		18,80	97,8	101,5	101,9	+0,4	+4,2
	Purchase of vehicles	11,25	101,7	103,0	103,3	+0,3	+1,6
	Private transport operation	4,82	84,0	94,0	94,7	+0,7	+12,7
	Petrol	3,93	77,9	88,9	89,5	+0,7	+14,9
	Other running costs	0,89	110,7	116,6	117,5	+0,8	+6,1
	Public transport	2,73	106,3	108,4	108,6	+0,2	+2,2
Communication		3,22	100,5	100,5	99,5	-1,0	-1,0
	Postal services and telecommunication services	2,90	101,0	103,3	102,5	-0,8	+1,5
	Telecommunication equipment	0,32	96,4	75,6	72,5	-4,1	-24,8
Recreation and culture		4,19	111,1	112,6	113,6	+0,9	+2,3
	Recreational equipment	2,23	108,1	107,2	107,0	-0,2	-1,0
	Recreational and cultural services	1,25	118,0	122,8	122,8	0,0	+4,1
	Books, newspapers and stationery	0,71	108,2	111,9	118,2	+5,6	+9,2
Education		2,19	111,7	111,7	122,0	+9,2	+9,2
	Primary and secondary education	1,29	113,1	113,1	124,6	+10,2	+10,2

Index description		Weight	Index (2008=100)			Percentage change	
			Mar 2009	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Month-on-month	Year-on-year
	Tertiary	0,90	109,6	109,6	118,3	+7,9	+7,9
Restaurants and hotels		2,78	109,5	116,0	117,5	+1,3	+7,3
	Restaurants	1,85	108,3	115,9	116,3	+0,3	+7,4
	Hotels	0,93	111,8	116,1	119,7	+3,1	+7,1
Miscellaneous goods and services		13,56	110,4	119,4	120,0	+0,5	+8,7
	Personal care	2,20	112,4	116,2	116,8	+0,5	+3,9
	Insurance	7,71	108,0	120,4	121,3	+0,7	+12,3
	Financial services	1,27	114,0	119,4	119,4	0,0	+4,7
	Other services	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>

Annual inflation rate	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.
Annual percentage change	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.
Average annual inflation rate	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.
Average annual percentage change	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.
CPI for administered prices	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.
CPI for regulated prices	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.
Inflation rate	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.
Monthly percentage change	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.
CPI per expenditure quintile	quintile 1 - up to R 14 564; quintile 2 - R 14 565 up to R 23 278; quintile 3 - R 23 279 up to R 36 755; quintile 4 - R 36 756 up to R 79 152; and quintile 5 - R 79 153 and more.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's eleven official languages. Since the releases are used extensively, not only locally but also by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

Stats SA has copyright on this publication. Users may apply the information as they wish, provided that they acknowledge Stats SA as the source of the basic data wherever they process, apply, utilise, publish or distribute the data: and also that they specify that the relevant application and analysis (where applicable) result from their own processing of data.

Advance release calendar

An advance release calendar is disseminated on <http://www.statssa.gov.za>

Forthcoming issues

Issue	Expected date for publication
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
September 2010	27 October 2010

Stats SA products

A complete set of Stats SA publications is available in the Stats SA Library and the following libraries -

- National Library of South Africa, Pretoria Division
- National Library of South Africa, Cape Town Division
- Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg
- Library of Parliament, Cape Town
- Bloemfontein Public Library
- Johannesburg Public Library
- Eastern Cape Library Services, King William's Town
- Central Regional Library, Polokwane
- Central Reference Library, Nelspruit
- Central Reference Collection, Kimberley
- Central Reference Library, Mmabatho.

Stats SA also provides a subscription service.

Electronic services

A large range of data are available via on-line services, diskette and computer printouts. For more details about our electronic data services, contact (012) 310 8600 / 8390 / 8351 / 4892 / 8496 / 8095.

You can visit us on the Internet at: <http://www.statssa.gov.za>

Enquiries

Technical enquiries:	Anita Voges, Marietjie Bennett (012) 310 8151 / 8077
Telephone number:	(012) 310 8077 / 8151 (survey area) (012) 310 8600 / 8390 / 8351 / 4892 / 8496 / 8095 (user) (012) 310 8161 (publishing) (012) 310 8490 (library)
Fax number:	(012) 310 8502
Email:	cpi@statssa.gov.za (technical enquiries) info@statssa.gov.za (user information services) distribution@statssa.gov.za (orders)
Postal address:	Private Bag X44, Pretoria, 0001

Produced by Stats SA