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# Statistical release

## P0141

# Consumer Price Index

## March 2013

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April 2013

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## KEY FINDINGS

**The headline CPI (for all urban areas) annual inflation rate in March 2013 was 5,9%. This rate was the same as the corresponding annual rate of 5,9% in February 2013. On average, prices increased by 1,2% between February 2013 and March 2013.**

The **food and non-alcoholic beverages** index decreased by 0,1% between February 2013 and March 2013. The annual rate decreased to 5,7% in March 2013 from 6,1% in February 2013. The following components in the food and non-alcoholic beverages index decreased: vegetables (-1,9%), hot beverages (-0,9%), other food (-0,7%), bread and cereals (-0,4%), oils and fats (-0,3%) and cold beverages (-0,1%). The following components increased: sugar, sweets and desserts (2,4%), milk, eggs and cheese (1,1%), fish (0,8%), fruit (0,8%) and meat (0,1%).

The **alcoholic beverages and tobacco** index increased by 2,8% between February 2013 and March 2013, mainly due to increases in excise duties. The annual rate decreased to 5,8% in March 2013 from 7,9% in February 2013.

The **housing and utilities** index increased by 0,8% between February 2013 and March 2013, mainly due to a 1,2% increase in actual rentals for housing and a 1,1% increase in owners' equivalent rent. The annual rate was unchanged at 5,9% in March 2013.

The **transport** index increased by 2,7% between February 2013 and March 2013, mainly due to an 81c/litre increase in the price of petrol. The annual rate increased to 7,5% in March 2013 from 5,5% in February 2013.

The **education** index increased by 9,0% between February 2013 and March 2013. The annual rate increased to 9,0% in March 2013 from 8,9% in February 2013.

The **miscellaneous goods and services** index increased by 0,3% between February 2013 and March 2013. The annual rate decreased to 7,4% in March 2013 from 7,5% in February 2013.

The provinces with an annual inflation rate lower than or equal to headline inflation were Free State (5,9%), Limpopo (5,9%), KwaZulu-Natal (5,8%), North West (5,8%), Northern Cape (5,7%), Mpumalanga (5,7%), Western Cape (5,6%) and Eastern Cape (5,5%). The province with an annual inflation rate higher than headline inflation was Gauteng (6,2%).

## NOTES

### CPI for April 2013

As indicated in the planned schedule of price surveys, medical aid contributions are surveyed in February. It has come to Stats SA's attention that price changes in these items will be introduced during April 2013. Additional surveys for these items will be conducted in April 2013 to capture these changes.

### Publication dates for future releases

Year	Issue	Publication date
2013	April	22 May 2013
	May	19 June 2013
	June	24 July 2013
	July	21 August 2013
	August	18 September 2013
	September	23 October 2013
	October	20 November 2013
	November	11 December 2013
	December	22 January 2014
	2014	January
February		19 March 2014

**PJ Lehohla**  
**Statistician-General**

**TABLES**

**Table A - Consumer Price Index: Main indices**

Unless otherwise stated, the table refers to all urban areas.

Group	Weight	Index (Dec 2012=100)			Percentage change			
		Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Mar 2013 vs. Feb 2013	Mar 2013 vs. Mar 2012		
<b>All items (CPI Headline)</b>	100,00	96,8	101,3	102,5	1,2	5,9		
<b>Analytical series</b>	CPI per expenditure quintile	1	2,27	94,8	100,4	101,0	0,6	6,5
		2	4,58	95,1	100,4	101,1	0,7	6,3
		3	8,08	95,3	100,5	101,4	0,9	6,4
		4	18,60	95,8	100,9	102,1	1,2	6,6
		5	66,47	97,2	101,6	102,9	1,3	5,9
	CPI for all goods	49,86	96,8	100,7	101,8	1,1	5,2	
	CPI for durable goods	8,02	101,0	100,2	100,3	0,1	-0,7	
	CPI for semi-durable goods	6,32	97,9	100,5	100,9	0,4	3,1	
	CPI for non-durable goods	35,52	95,2	100,8	102,3	1,5	7,5	
	CPI for services	50,14	96,8	102,0	103,2	1,2	6,6	
	CPI for pensioners	..	96,4	101,4	102,5	1,1	6,3	
	CPI for administered prices	Total	18,48	94,5	100,7	104,5	3,8	10,6
		Regulated	13,70	93,5	101,0	104,0	3,0	11,2
		Not regulated	4,78	96,6	100,0	105,7	5,7	9,4
	CPI for food and non-alcoholic beverages (NAB)	15,41	94,8	100,3	100,2	-0,1	5,7	
	CPI excluding food and NAB	84,59	97,1	101,5	102,9	1,4	6,0	
	CPI excluding petrol	94,32	96,9	101,3	102,1	0,8	5,4	
	CPI excluding food and NAB and petrol	78,91	97,3	101,5	102,5	1,0	5,3	
	CPI excluding food and NAB, petrol, VAT, assessment rates, and finance charges	76,41	97,4	101,4	102,5	1,1	5,2	
	CPI excluding housing	75,48	97,2	101,8	103,1	1,3	6,1	
	CPI excluding petrol and energy	90,19	97,1	101,3	102,2	0,9	5,3	
	CPI excluding energy	95,87	96,9	101,4	102,6	1,2	5,9	
	CPI excluding food and NAB, petrol and energy	74,78	97,6	101,5	102,6	1,1	5,1	
CPI excluding owners' equivalent rent	88,58	96,7	101,5	102,7	1,2	6,2		
CPI excluding administered prices	81,52	97,2	101,5	102,1	0,6	5,0		
CPI administered prices excluding petrol and paraffin	12,75	94,9	100,0	102,3	2,3	7,8		
Trimmed mean	..	97,1	100,9	101,7	0,8	4,7		
<b>Geographic indices</b>	CPI for primary urban areas	61,90	96,8	101,4	102,6	1,2	6,0	
	CPI for secondary urban areas	20,49	96,5	101,2	102,2	1,0	5,9	
	CPI for rural areas <sup>1</sup>	17,61	96,2	100,7	101,6	0,9	5,6	
	CPI for total country	100,00	96,6	101,2	102,4	1,2	6,0	
	CPI per province	Western Cape	15,55	96,7	100,9	102,1	1,2	5,6
		Eastern Cape	8,12	96,6	100,9	101,9	1,0	5,5
		Northern Cape	1,57	96,3	100,8	101,8	1,0	5,7
		Free State	5,12	96,3	100,9	102,0	1,1	5,9
		KwaZulu-Natal	15,33	96,7	101,1	102,3	1,2	5,8
		North West	5,59	96,3	101,2	101,9	0,7	5,8
Gauteng		36,97	96,9	101,6	102,9	1,3	6,2	
Mpumalanga	5,69	96,6	101,3	102,1	0,8	5,7		
Limpopo	6,06	96,2	100,8	101,9	1,1	5,9		

<sup>1</sup> The rural CPI is compiled using data from rural and urban areas in accordance with the purchasing patterns of rural residents.

**Table B - CPI headline**

**Table B1 - CPI headline index numbers (Dec 2012=100)**

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average <sup>1</sup>
2009	81,4	82,3	83,4	83,8	84,1	84,5	85,4	85,6	86,0	86,0	86,0	86,2	84,6
2010	86,4	87,0	87,7	87,8	88,0	88,0	88,6	88,6	88,7	88,9	89,0	89,2	88,2
2011	89,6	90,2	91,3	91,6	92,0	92,4	93,2	93,4	93,8	94,2	94,5	94,6	92,6
2012	95,2	95,7	96,8	97,2	97,2	97,5	97,8	98,0	98,9	99,5	99,8	100,0	97,8
2013	100,3	101,3	102,5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

<sup>1</sup> Annual average.

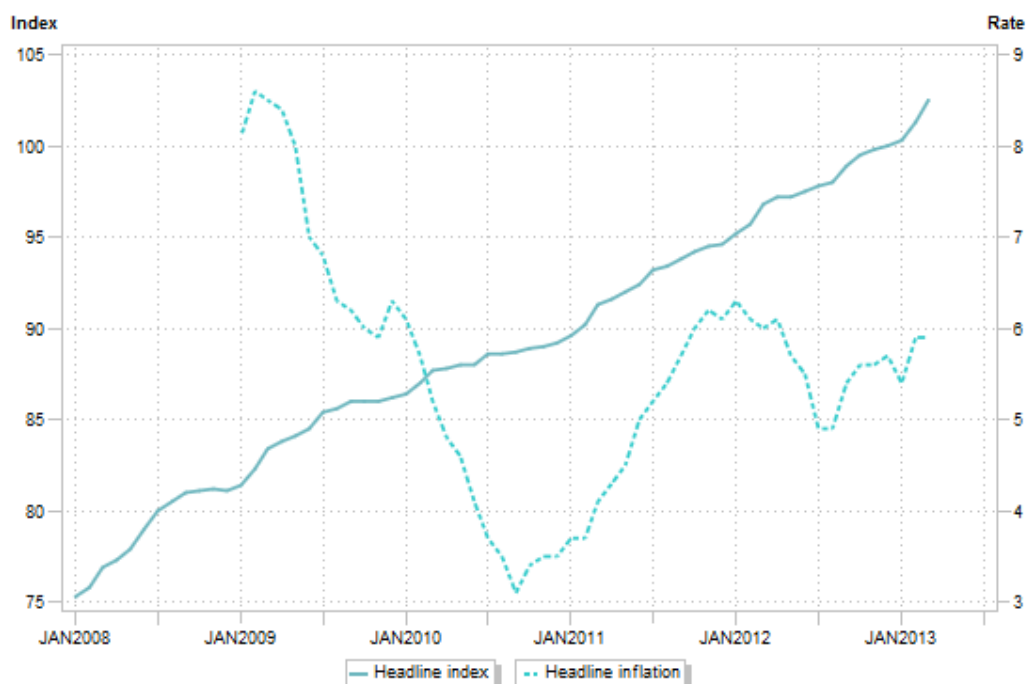
**Table B2 - CPI headline year-on-year rates**

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average <sup>1</sup>
2009	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	6,2	5,7	5,1	4,8	4,6	4,2	3,7	3,5	3,2	3,4	3,6	3,5	4,3
2011	3,7	3,7	4,1	4,2	4,6	5,0	5,3	5,3	5,7	6,0	6,1	6,1	5,0
2012	6,3	6,1	6,0	6,1	5,7	5,5	4,9	5,0	5,5	5,6	5,6	5,7	5,6
2013	5,4	5,9	5,9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

<sup>1</sup> Annual average.

Rates shown in Table B2 show the official inflation rates as published in the monthly CPI release. Differences due to rounding off may occur when using the rebased indices in Table B1 to calculate the rates of change.

**Figure 1 - CPI headline index numbers and year-on-year rates**



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

Group	Contribution	
	Feb 2013	Mar 2013
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	0,9	0,9
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	0,4	0,3
Clothing and footwear	0,1	0,1
Housing and utilities	1,4	1,4
Household contents and services	0,2	0,2
Health	0,1	0,1
Transport	0,9	1,2
Recreation and culture	0,1	0,2
Education	0,3	0,3
Restaurants and hotels	0,2	0,2
Miscellaneous goods and services	1,1	1,1
Residual	0,2	-0,1
All Items	5,9	5,9

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

Group	Contribution	
	Feb 2013	Mar 2013
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	-0,1	0,0
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	0,0	0,2
Housing and utilities	0,0	0,2
Transport	0,2	0,4
Education	0,0	0,3
Miscellaneous goods and services	0,8	0,0
Residual	0,1	0,1
All Items	1,0	1,2

**Table E - Consumer price indices for all urban areas**

Group	Weight	Index (Dec 2012=100)			Percentage change	
		Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Mar 2013 vs. Feb 2013	Mar 2013 vs. Mar 2012
<b>All items (CPI Headline)</b>	100,00	96,8	101,3	102,5	1,2	5,9
<b>Food and non-alcoholic beverages</b>	15,41	94,8	100,3	100,2	-0,1	5,7
<b>Food</b>	14,20	94,5	100,2	100,1	-0,1	5,9
<b>Processed</b>	6,78	95,6	101,4	101,7	0,3	6,4
<b>Unprocessed</b>	7,42	93,5	99,1	98,7	-0,4	5,6
<b>Bread and cereals</b>	3,55	94,9	99,8	99,4	-0,4	4,7
<b>Meat</b>	4,56	94,3	98,6	98,7	0,1	4,7
<b>Fish</b>	0,37	96,0	101,6	102,4	0,8	6,7
<b>Milk, eggs and cheese</b>	1,74	96,2	102,3	103,4	1,1	7,5
<b>Oils and fats</b>	0,55	96,6	101,4	101,1	-0,3	4,7
<b>Fruit</b>	0,23	92,4	97,0	97,8	0,8	5,8
<b>Vegetables</b>	1,61	89,9	101,8	99,9	-1,9	11,1
<b>Sugar, sweets and desserts</b>	0,65	98,3	102,1	104,6	2,4	6,4
<b>Other food</b>	0,94	94,7	101,0	100,3	-0,7	5,9
<b>Non-alcoholic beverages</b>	1,21	98,3	101,6	101,4	-0,2	3,2
<b>Hot beverages</b>	0,32	99,9	102,4	101,5	-0,9	1,6
<b>Cold beverages</b>	0,89	97,8	101,4	101,3	-0,1	3,6
<b>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco</b>	5,43	98,4	101,3	104,1	2,8	5,8
<b>Alcoholic beverages</b>	3,95	98,5	101,8	104,6	2,8	6,2
<b>Spirits</b>	0,76	97,8	100,5	104,2	3,7	6,5
<b>Wine</b>	0,74	98,7	100,8	103,5	2,7	4,9
<b>Beer</b>	2,45	98,9	102,5	105,1	2,5	6,3
<b>Tobacco</b>	1,48	98,2	100,1	102,5	2,4	4,4
<b>Clothing and footwear</b>	4,07	97,7	100,4	100,5	0,1	2,9
<b>Clothing</b>	2,76	97,5	100,4	100,6	0,2	3,2
<b>Footwear</b>	1,31	97,8	100,3	100,4	0,1	2,7
<b>Housing and utilities</b>	24,52	95,3	100,1	100,9	0,8	5,9
<b>Actual rentals for housing</b>	4,76	96,7	100,0	101,2	1,2	4,7
<b>Owners' equivalent rent</b>	11,42	97,2	100,0	101,1	1,1	4,0
<b>Maintenance and repair</b>	1,31	95,9	101,0	102,0	1,0	6,4
<b>Water and other services</b>	2,85	91,6	100,0	100,0	0,0	9,2
<b>Electricity and other fuels</b>	4,18	90,8	100,0	100,1	0,1	10,2
<b>Household contents and services</b>	4,79	97,6	100,1	100,7	0,6	3,2
<b>Furnishings, floor coverings and textiles</b>	1,12	100,2	99,6	99,8	0,2	-0,4
<b>Appliances, tableware and equipment</b>	0,78	98,8	100,8	100,7	-0,1	1,9
<b>Supplies and services</b>	2,89	95,9	100,1	101,0	0,9	5,3
<b>Domestic workers' wages</b>	2,35	95,7	100,0	101,0	1,0	5,5
<b>Health</b>	1,46	99,0	103,1	103,0	-0,1	4,0
<b>Medical products</b>	0,74	97,2	100,2	99,9	-0,3	2,8
<b>Medical services</b>	0,72	100,0	106,1	106,1	0,0	6,1

**Table E - Consumer price indices for all urban areas (concluded)**

Group	Weight	Index (Dec 2012=100)			Percentage change	
		Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Mar 2013 vs. Feb 2013	Mar 2013 vs. Mar 2012
<b>Transport</b>	16,43	96,6	101,1	103,8	2,7	7,5
Purchase of vehicles	5,98	100,9	100,6	100,7	0,1	-0,2
Private transport operation	7,25	94,4	101,9	107,6	5,6	14,0
Petrol	5,68	93,8	102,3	109,2	6,7	16,4
Other running costs	1,57	97,2	100,5	101,9	1,4	4,8
Public transport	3,20	87,9	100,2	100,7	0,5	14,6
<b>Communication</b>	2,63	99,8	99,9	100,8	0,9	1,0
Postal services and telecommunication services	2,50	99,4	100,0	101,1	1,1	1,7
Telecommunication equipment	0,13	105,7	97,2	95,3	-2,0	-9,8
<b>Recreation and culture</b>	4,09	97,4	101,3	101,8	0,5	4,5
Recreational equipment	1,59	99,0	100,5	101,1	0,6	2,1
Recreational and cultural services	1,72	97,4	101,7	101,7	0,0	4,4
Books, newspapers and stationery	0,57	94,0	100,7	101,3	0,6	7,8
Package holidays	0,21	..	105,2	108,5	3,1	..
<b>Education</b>	2,95	100,0	100,0	109,0	9,0	9,0
Primary and secondary	1,72	100,0	100,0	109,1	9,1	9,1
Tertiary	1,23	100,0	100,0	108,8	8,8	8,8
<b>Restaurants and hotels</b>	3,50	96,1	101,3	101,9	0,6	6,0
Restaurants	2,54	95,1	100,7	101,5	0,8	6,7
Hotels	0,96	98,0	102,7	103,3	0,6	5,4
<b>Miscellaneous goods and services</b>	14,72	98,9	105,9	106,2	0,3	7,4
Personal care	2,29	98,4	100,4	101,9	1,5	3,6
Insurance	9,92	99,6	107,9	108,1	0,2	8,5
Financial services	1,20	99,0	104,5	104,6	0,1	5,7
Other goods and services	1,31	96,9	101,1	101,1	0,0	4,3



**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 policy objective. Products and services included are water, electricity, paraffin, petrol, telephone fees, postage and cell calls.
<b>CPI per expenditure quintile</b>	quintile 1 - up to R 21 399; quintile 2 - R 21 400 up to R 35 750; quintile 3 - R 35 751 up to R 61 624; quintile 4 - R 61 625 up to R 142 083; and quintile 5 - R 142 084 and more.
<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.

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