

Prices

Price \$3.00

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Consumer Price Index (Feb 2019 = 100) – November 2019

The month on month inflation rate in November 2019 was 17.46 percent shedding 21.29 percentage points on the October 2019 rate of 38.75 percent. (See note on period of data collection below).

This means that prices as measured by the all items CPI increased by an average rate of 17.46 percent from October 2019 to November 2019.

The month-on-month inflation rate is given by the percentage change in the index of the relevant month of the current year compared with the index of the previous month in the current year.

The month on month Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages inflation rate stood at 22.63 percent in November 2019, Shedding 25.72 percentage points on the October 2019 rate of 48.35 percent. The month on month non-food inflation rate stood at 13.94 percent, shedding 18.96 percentage points on the October 2019 rate of 32.90 percent.

The CPI for the month ending November 2019 stood at 473.28 compared to 402.92 in October 2019.

Period of Data Collection

It is important to note that data on prices was collected during the period from 13 to 19 November 2019. The changes in prices in this report refer to that period.

THE NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

With effect from March 2019 ZIMSTAT is publishing the new Consumer Price Index (CPI) with new weights and a classification. The use of a Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COI-COP) resulted in the creation of a new classification which resulted in coming up with 83 classes, 41 groups and 12 divisions. The number of items in the CPI basket is 495.

The implementation of the COICOP classification is also part of the harmonisation project of Consumer Price Indices in different regions like the SADC region. All member states are supposed to adopt the new procedure to enable inter country comparisons of the CPI and the rate of inflation. The new weights are therefore applicable from February 2019 onwards.

Mean Month on Month Rates

The mean month on month rate of inflation for the period January to November 2019 was 17.0 percent while the mean for the same period in 2018 was 2.6 percent. The annual average month on month inflation rate for 2018 was 3.1 percent

Table 1: Month on month inflation rate from March 2019 to November 2019

| Months | Mar-19 | Apr-19 | May-19 | Jun-19 | Jul-19 | Aug-19 | Sep-19 | Oct-19 | Nov-19 |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Month on month inflation rate | 4.4 | 5.5 | 12.5 | 39.3 | 21.0 | 18.1 | 17.7 | 38.8 | 17.5 |

Figure 1: Month on month inflation rate from March 2019 to November 2019

