Consumer Price Index for South Sudan January 2019

The South Sudan annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by 76.9% from January 2018 to January 2019. The increase was mainly driven by high prices in food and non-alcoholic beverages.

The annual CPI increased in Juba by 39.4% and in Wau by 146.5% from January 2018 to January 2019.

The South Sudan monthly CPI increased by 30% from Dec 2018 to January 2019, the monthly CPI increased by 5.6% in Juba and increased in Wau 78.5%.

Annual CPI

The annual growth in the CPI for South Sudan increased by 76.9% in January 2019 compared to 125% for January 2018.

The Food and non-alcoholic beverages increased by 74% from January 2018 to January 2019, while the prices for restaurant and hotels increased by 143%, furnishing and household equipment increased by 21.7% over the same period.

The higher prices of food and non-alcoholic beverage were mainly driven by high prices of Oil and fats because both items increased by 591.63 % of total sub group monthly.

Monthly CPI

In addition to annual CPI, the National Bureau of Statistics also calculates CPI on a monthly basis. These figures are subject to volatility because of seasonal products entering and exiting the markets, so should be used with caution. Please see the technical notes for further explanation of how CPI is calculated.

The monthly CPI increased by 30% between December 2018 and January 2019. Over this period the price for food and non-alcoholic beverage increased by 46.2%, while the price for restaurant and hotels increased by 0.7 and furnishing and household equipment increased by 5.8%.

The increased in the prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages was mainly caused by high prices in Oil and fats and both items increased by 637.39% of total sub-group annually.

Note:
It has not been possible to collect data from Malakal since February 2014 due to insecurity, so all prices for Malakal are imputed based on proxies from Juba and Wau. As such we are not publishing a monthly regional CPI for Malakal, and data users are advised that the South Sudan CPI index is based on Juba and Wau only.

There are four new consumption groups measured in the CPI: clothing and footwear, health, communication and education. There are annual rates of change for these groups from June 2012.

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Regional CPI

In June 2011, price collection was expanded from Juba alone to include Wau and Malakal. NBS now publishes an index for all of South Sudan, and three separate regional indices for Juba, Wau and Malakal. The individual regions have different weights reflecting the different consumption baskets in the three states. Annual changes are available for Wau and Malakal from June 2012.

Annual inflation increased in January 2019 was 39.4% in Juba, and 146.5% in Wau, compared with 76.9% for South Sudan. Prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages increased in Juba by 20.1%, and by 207.9% in Wau respectively over this period.

From December 2018 to January 2019, the monthly CPI increased in Juba by 5.6% and in Wau by 78.5% respectively. Over this period the price for Food & non-alcoholic beverages increased by 4.3% in Juba and by 141.6% in Wau respectively.
When using this information, please state National Bureau of Statistics as the source.

The full index series for South Sudan and the regional indices for Juba, Wau and Malakal are available.
Technical note

National Consumer Price Index (CPI) for South Sudan
Since July 2011, a national CPI has been published for South Sudan. The index has been rebased to June 2011=100 and is directly chained on to the previous Juba index which got a time series back to April 2007. The national CPI has weights calculated from the 2009 National Baseline Household Survey (NBHS) and includes all twelve major consumption groups in the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP). The item basket has been revised and updated according to the results from the NBHS. With price collection in the major three cities of Juba, Malakal and Wau, the price collection covers all three regions of South Sudan.

What is NBS?
The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), formerly known as the Southern Sudan Centre for Census, Statistics and Evaluation (SSCCSE), is the official statistical agency of the Government of South Sudan.

Republic of South Sudan National Basket: -
Until May 2011, the consumption basket contained eight COICOP groups. Since May 2011, the South Sudan National Basket has contained the following twelve COICOP groups:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No/S</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Number of items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Food and non-alcoholic beverages</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Clothing and footwear</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Housing, water, electricity, gas, and other</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Recreation and culture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Restaurants and hotels</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Miscellaneous goods and services</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consumer Price Index (CPI):
The Consumer Price Index is an index which tracks the price of a representative basket of goods and services consumed by households in South Sudan. The composition of the goods and services in the basket reflects consumption of the average household in South Sudan. The change in the CPI over time indicates how much more expensive it is for the average household to continue consuming the same basket of goods and services. The percentage change in the CPI is consumer price inflation. It is an important tool to measure both development of the economy and the welfare of households.

Annual Consumer Price Inflation Rate:
Annual consumer price inflation is the percentage change in the CPI over the course of one year. It is the most commonly used measure of consumer price inflation.

Monthly Consumer Price Inflation Rate:
Monthly consumer price inflation is the percentage change in the CPI over the course of one month. Monthly consumer price index does not take into account the variations in the population’s consumption pattern caused by entry and exit of seasonal products in the market. Seasonal products are those which are only available part of the year, such as mango, papaya, or cassava, or whose supply is significantly affected by the changing of the seasons, such as green okra. Monthly CPI should therefore be interpreted and used with caution.

On an annual basis CPI is less affected by the entry and exit of seasonal products in the market.