Consumer Price Index for South Sudan September 2017

The South Sudan annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by 101.9% from September 2016 to September 2017. The increased was mainly driven by high price in food and non-alcoholic beverages.

The annual CPI increased in Juba by 143% and in Wau by 109% from September 2016 to September 2017.

The South Sudan monthly CPI increased by 0.2% from August 2017 to September 2017, the monthly CPI increased by 8% in Juba and increased in Wau by 11.2%.

Annual CPI

The annual growth in the CPI for South Sudan increased by 101.9% in September 2017 compared to 549.4% for September 2016. Food and non-alcoholic beverages increased by 110.7 from September 2016 to September 2017, while the prices for heath increased by 4.9% restaurants and hotels increased by 236.5% over the same period.

The high prices of food and non-alcoholic beverage were mainly driven by higher price of Fruits.

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 8.1% between August 2017 and September 2017. Over this period the price for food and non-alcoholic beverages increased by 7.1%, and health by 72.7%.

The increased in the price of food and non-alcoholic beverages was mainly caused by higher prices in Fruits.

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 in September 2017 was 143% in Juba, and 109% in Wau, compared with 101.9% for South Sudan. Prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages increased in Juba by 103%, and by 86.7% in Wau respectively over this period.

From August 2017 to September 2017, the monthly CPI increased in Juba by 8% and increased in Wau by 11.2% respectively. Over this period the price for food and non-alcoholic beverages increased by 5.6% in Juba and decreased by 1.3% in Wau respectively.

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The full index series for South Sudan and the regional indices for Juba, Wau and Malakal are available Online at [www.ssnbs.org](http://www.ssnbs.org).
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**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.