

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS OF RWANDA

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (C.P.I.)
Kigali – March 2009
CAUTION

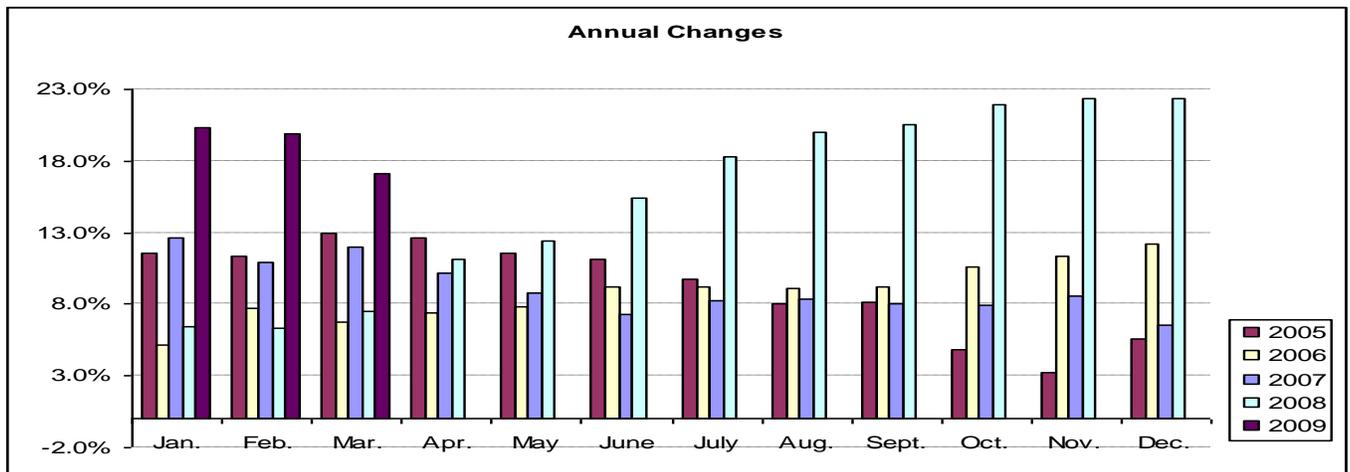
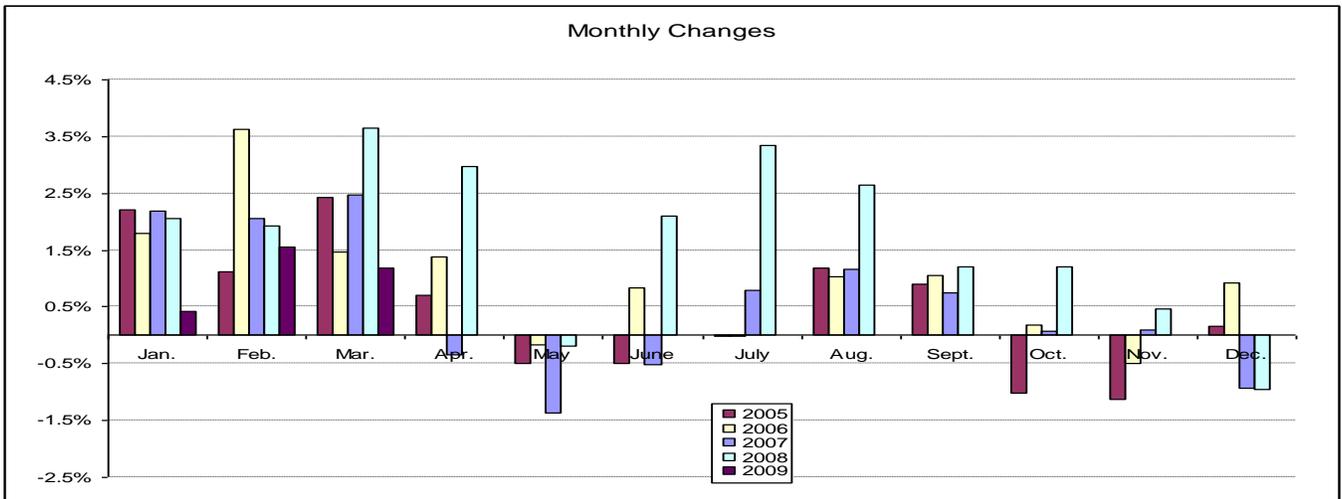
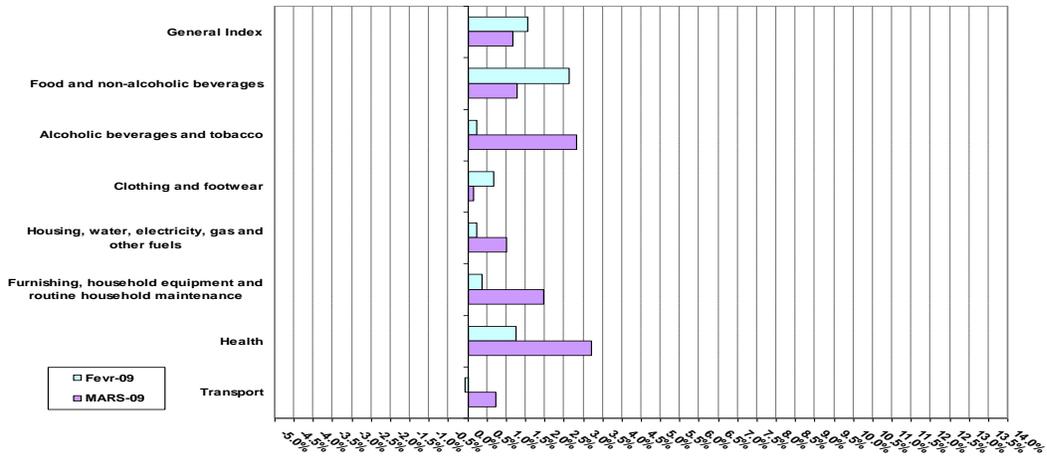
The National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda is very pleased to deliver to users the new Consumer Price Index (CPI) based in 2003 that replaces the previous one which was based in 1989.

The Index is published every month by the 15th.

Base 100: 2003

Divisions ❖ Groups	Weights	Indices for the following months:					Changes in % over						
		March 08	Dec 08	Jan. 09	Feb. 09	March 09	1 month	3 months	12 months				
GENERAL INDEX	10 000	157.4	178.6	179.4	182.2	184.3	1.18	3.20	17.08				
01 Food and non-alcoholic beverages	3 709	162.3	200.0	200.1	205.4	208.0	1.29	4.00	28.13				
0111 ❖ Bread and cereals	625	164.3	223.2	225.9	227.4	225.2	-0.98	0.90	37.08				
0112 ❖ Meat	345	134.6	190.0	190.4	192.8	192.6	-0.11	1.41	43.17				
0113 ❖ Fish	114	168.0	207.0	202.9	205.4	214.3	4.33	3.53	27.57				
0117 ❖ Vegetables	1 332	167.1	191.7	193.8	203.4	206.4	1.51	7.69	23.53				
012 ❖ Non-alcoholic beverages	180	136.8	160.4	160.4	163.2	167.7	2.73	4.54	22.54				
02 Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	221	142.6	173.4	173.8	174.2	179.1	2.82	3.28	25.63				
03 Clothing and footwear	500	111.0	113.8	114.1	114.8	115.0	0.14	1.06	3.54				
04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	1 579	216.5	233.6	234.7	235.3	237.6	1.00	1.72	9.75				
05 Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance	764	133.9	150.7	151.1	151.7	154.7	1.96	2.62	15.52				
06 Health	708	124.8	139.3	134.9	136.6	141.0	3.19	1.21	12.94				
07 Transport	987	143.9	146.7	147.2	147.1	148.2	0.74	0.99	2.97				
08 Communication	37	121.4	120.1	120.1	118.7	119.7	0.89	-0.31	-1.33				
09 Recreation and culture	206	107.9	111.3	112.2	113.9	114.4	0.44	2.75	5.98				
10 Education	432	175.8	175.2	191.8	205.7	206.7	0.49	17.95	17.57				
11 Restaurants and hotels	273	146.0	174.0	175.3	175.4	176.8	0.78	1.59	21.10				
12 Miscellaneous goods and services	584	116.4	121.3	121.2	123.5	122.6	-0.74	1.03	5.33				
Month	Mar 08	Apr 08	May 08	June 08	July 08	Aug 08	Sept 08	Oct 08	Nov 08	Dec 08	Jan. 09	Feb 09	Mar 09
Index (2003=100)	157.4	162.1	161.8	165.2	170.7	175.2	177.3	179.5	180.3	178.6	179.4	182.2	184.3
Annual changes	7.5	11.1	12.4	15.37	18.28	20.02	20.55	21.90	22.37	22.32	20.38	19.95	17.08

Fluctuations of the general index and the divisions index February 2009 and March 2009



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI), MARCH 2009 (Base 100 = 2003)

In March 2009 the general consumer prices index is established at 184.3 this stands for an increase of 1.18% over the previous month which was 182.2. In annual change it increased by 17.08% compared to 19.95% in the previous month. This gives a general inflation rate by an annual average of 18.5% during the month of March 2009.

The underlying inflation rate (excluding fresh food and energy) is + 0.74% if compared to the previous month and +16.31% on annual change. The annual average underlying inflation rate is + 16.3% in March 2009 down from the previous month (18.7%).

The increase in the consumer prices index of 1.18% is attributable primarily to the increase in prices of Food and non-alcoholic beverages (1.29%), Health (3.19%), Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance (1.96%), and Housing, water , Electricity, Gas and other fuels (1.00%).

It is noted that the increase of 1.29% in prices of Food and non-alcoholic beverages is attributable to the increase of 4.33% and 1.51% of Fish and Vegetables indices respectively.

In annual change, the increase in the general index of 17.08% is mainly due to the rising prices of Food and non-alcoholic beverages (28.13%), housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (9.75%), furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance index (15.52%) and Health (12.94%) which contributed +10.76%, +2.12%, +1.01% and 0.73% respectively.

The 'local goods' increased by 17.77% on annual change with a monthly variation of + 1.84%, While prices of the imported products rose by 15.59% on annual change with a monthly change of +0.55%.

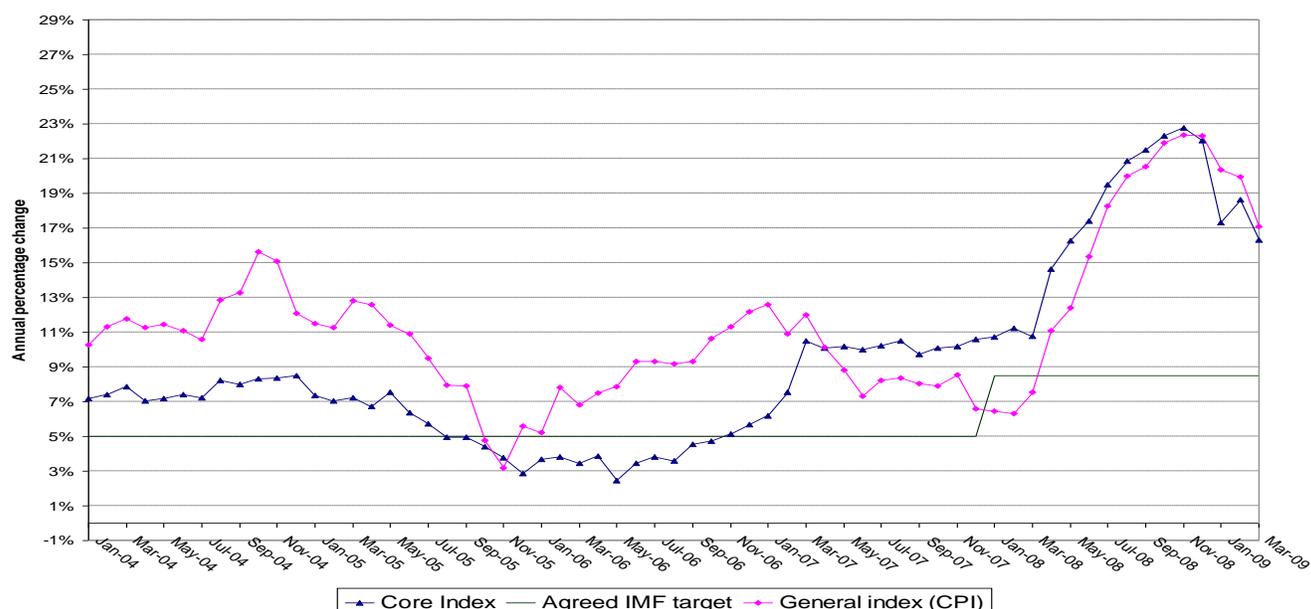
The prices of the fresh products had a positive annual change of 29.69% between March 2009 and March 2008.

Evolution (over 12 months) of the rate of inflation (%) ⁽¹⁾

MONTH	March 08	April 08	May 08	June 08	July 08	Aug. 08	Sep. 08	Oct. 08	Nov. 08	Dec. 08	Jan. 09	Feb. 09	March 09
General index	7.8	7.9	8.3	8.9	9.8	10.8	11.8	13.0	14.2	15.4	16.6	17.7	18.5
Core / Underlying	10.4	10.8	11.3	11.9	12.7	13.6	14.6	15.6	16.7	17.6	18.3	18.7	16.3

(1) In March 2009 the average index of the last twelve months (April 2008 to March 2009) increased by 18.5% (general index) and 16.3% (core index) compared to the average index of the previous twelve months (April 2007 to March 2008).

Annual changes (Comparison with the same month of the previous year)



Other Indices

	Weights	Indices for the following months:				Changes in % over:			
		March 08	Dec 08	Jan. 09	Feb. 09	March. 09	1 month	3 months	12 months
General Index	10 000	157.4	178.6	179.4	182.2	184.3	1.18	3.20	17.08
Local Goods Index	6 956	165.7	188.1	188.5	191.6	195.1	1.84	3.72	17.77
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	2 627	162.1	201.1	201.1	208.0	211.2	1.53	5.04	30.31
Housing, Water, Electricity, gas and other fuels	1 501	216.3	232.1	233.3	232.5	236.5	1.69	1.90	9.30
Transport	698	136.4	133.7	133.4	133.4	134.1	0.49	0.32	-1.68
Imported Goods Index	3 044	138.1	157.0	157.3	158.8	159.7	0.55	1.70	15.59
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	1 082	165.0	199.7	198.8	200.6	201.8	0.60	1.07	22.35
Furnishing, household equipment	533	120.2	131.3	130.1	132.3	133.5	0.86	1.61	11.00
Transport	289	161.5	178.1	179.9	177.6	181.5	2.20	1.90	12.39
Kigali Index	7 679	156.4	175.0	175.7	177.9	179.9	1.08	2.83	15.08
Provinces Index⁽¹⁾	2 321	161.0	190.8	191.7	196.4	198.4	1.03	3.99	23.25
Fresh Products index⁽²⁾	2 186	167.3	202.5	205.4	212.1	216.9	2.29	7.12	29.69
Energy index	761	270.9	275.8	275.9	271.7	282.0	3.77	2.23	4.08
General Index excluding fresh Products and energy⁽³⁾	7 053	143.3	162.7	163.5	165.4	166.7	0.74	2.46	16.31

(1) This is the index for the country without Kigali

(2) Fresh products are food products which have seasonal fluctuations

(3) Proxy for underlying inflation

METHODOLOGICAL NOTICE

The Consumer Price Index is a Laspeyres index that covers household consumption as it is used by national accounts. The reference population for the CPI consists of all households living in urban areas in Rwanda.

The household basket includes 438 products observed in many places spread all over the administrative centers of all provinces in Rwanda. All kinds of places of observation are selected: shops, markets, services, etc. More than 25,000 prices are collected every month by enumerators of the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda and of the National Bank of Rwanda.

The base year for the CPI is the year 2003.

The weights used for this new index are the result of the Household Living Conditions Survey (EICV) conducted in 2000-2001 with a sample of 6,450 households.

The splicing with the old index is feasible using the splicing coefficient of 3.889. If you divide the old index by this coefficient, you will be able to make comparisons with the new index based in 2003.

Additional methodological documentation can be obtained at the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda, Economic Statistics Department.

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