



Economic and Social Indicators

Issue No 1923

Consumer Price Index

1st Quarter 2026

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Statistics Mauritius
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Note: Readers are invited to make the distinction between official data which are published in the Economic and Social indicators and the analysis presented for the benefit of general readers. Differences of opinion may arise regarding the analytical part but these do not in any way, undermine the quality of the data. The Editors welcome constructive critical comments.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(Base period: January – December 2023 = 100)

1st Quarter 2026

1. INTRODUCTION

This issue of Economic and Social Indicators presents the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the first quarter 2026. The methodology used for computing CPI and inflation rate is given in the technical note at Annex.

2. KEY POINTS

2.1 Overall CPI

The Consumer Price Index, which stood at 108.2 in December 2025, registered a net increase of 1.4 points (or +1.3%) to reach 109.6 in March 2026 (Table 1A).

On a monthly basis, the CPI increased by 0.9 point in January, 0.4 point in February and 0.1 point in March.

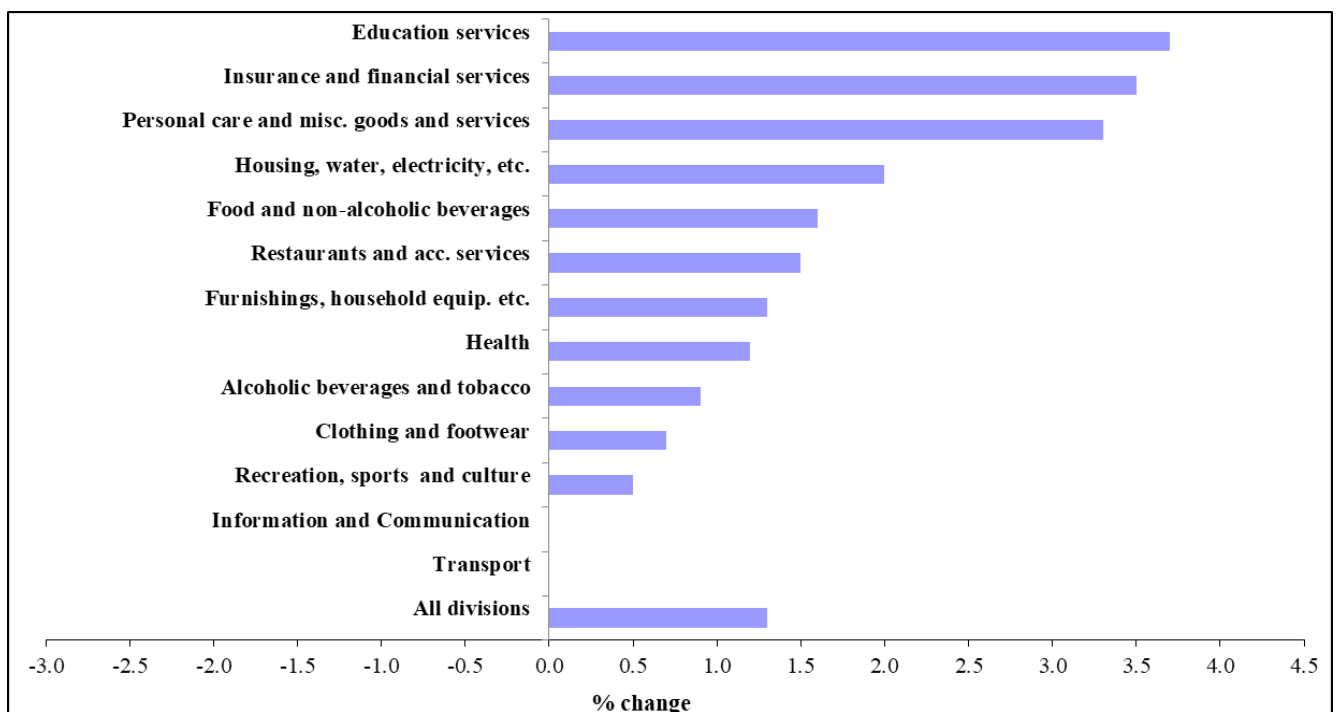
2.2 Overview of CPI movements

The main contributors for the net increase in CPI from December 2025 to March 2026 (Table 2) were:

- (a) higher prices of vegetables (+0.3 point) and some other food products (+0.1 point);
- (b) higher prices of whisky (+0.1 point);
- (c) higher workman's wages (+0.2 point);
- (d) higher doctors' fees (+0.1 point);
- (e) higher private secondary tuition fees (+0.1 point);
- (f) higher prices of prepared foods (+0.1 point);
- (g) higher charges for home (+0.1 point) and medical (+0.1 point) insurance;
- (h) higher prices of goods for personal care and hygiene (+0.1 point) and, other goods and services (+0.2 point);
partly offset by
- (i) lower prices of motor vehicles (-0.1 point).

3. MOVEMENT OF CPI SUB INDICES

Percentage change in CPI sub-indices from December 2025 to March 2026



The changes in the sub-indices (Table 3) for the thirteen divisions of consumption expenditure from December 2025 to March 2026 were as follows:

<i>Food and non-alcoholic beverages (+1.6%)</i>	The increase was mainly due to higher prices for vegetables (+7.9%), culinary herbs (+13.8%), pork and chicken sausages (+8.3%), mutton (+3.2%) and fruits (+1.1%), partly offset by lower prices of trader's rice (-2.0%) and powdered milk (-1.3%).
<i>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (+0.9%)</i>	The increase was due to higher prices of whisky (+11.5%) and beer (+0.1%), partly offset by lower prices of wine (-0.6%) and other cane spirits (-0.1%).
<i>Clothing and footwear (+0.7%)</i>	The increase was due to higher prices of ready-made clothing (+0.8%), school uniforms (+3.8%) and clothing materials (+1.7%).
<i>Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (+2.0%)</i>	The increase was mainly due to higher workman's wages (+16.7%) and higher rental fees for some residential dwellings (+1.5%) and the partial effect of higher prices of cooking gas (+4.1%), partly offset by lower interest rates on housing loans (-1.7%).
<i>Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance (+1.3%)</i>	The increase was mainly due to higher charges for domestic (+5.7%) and gardening (+17.6%) services, partly offset by lower prices of furniture (-3.9%).
<i>Health (+1.2%)</i>	The increase was due to higher doctors' fees (+5.9%) and higher charges for laboratory medical services (+9.1%), partly offset by lower prices of adult diapers (-17.4%) and some medicinal products (-0.6%).
<i>Transport</i>	Unchanged. The decrease in the prices of motor vehicles (-1.0%) was fully offset by higher servicing charges for motor vehicles (+5.0%), air ticket for domestic travel (+2.0%) and the partial effect of higher prices of diesel (+2.2%).
<i>Information and Communication</i>	Unchanged. The decrease in the prices of audio-visual equipment (-1.6%) was fully offset by higher prices of some Information Technology and Communication (ICT) equipment (+1.1%) and mobile phones (+0.8%).
<i>Recreation, sports and culture (+0.5%)</i>	The increase was due to higher prices of some toys and games (+3.1%), sport equipment (+1.3%) and higher subscription fees in fitness centres (+1.7%), partly offset by lower prices of some video games (-2.6%).
<i>Education services (+3.7%)</i>	The increase was mainly due to higher private primary (+15.9%) and secondary (+8.2%) tuition fees and, higher school fees for private primary education (+11.1%).

Restaurants and accommodation services (+1.5%)

The increase was mainly due to higher prices of prepared meals in snacks (+0.8%), in restaurant (+1.6%) and some other prepared foods (+5.0%), partly offset by lower rates in hotel accommodation services (-3.5%).

Insurance and financial services (+3.5%)

The increase was due to higher charges for home (+7.6%) and medical (+3.4%) insurance.

Personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services (+3.3%)

The increase was mainly due to higher prices of some goods for personal care and hygiene (+2.7%), higher charges for hairdressing services (+12.4%) and higher fees for carers for elderly people (+7.6%) and nursery (+4.5%), partly offset by lower prices of some religious items (-1.3%).

4. INFLATION RATE

The headline inflation rate was 3.7% for year 2025 compared to 3.6% for year 2024 (Table 5).

The headline inflation rate excluding 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' was 3.5% for year 2025, compared to 3.6% for year 2024.

The headline inflation rate for the twelve months ending March 2026 worked out to 4.2%, compared to 2.5% for the twelve months ending March 2025.

The headline inflation rate excluding "Alcoholic beverages and tobacco" for the twelve months ending March 2026 worked out to 3.8%, compared to 2.7% for the twelve months ending March 2025.

5. INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON OF INFLATION RATE

The table below compares the inflation rate (as measured by the percentage change in the average CPI for a given year relative to the previous year) of Mauritius with those of our main importing countries and some countries in the region for year 2024. It is to be noted that inflation rates for 2025 for the selected countries are not yet available.

Inflation rate (%) of selected countries, year 2024

Country	Inflation rate (%)	Country	Inflation rate (%)
France	2.3	Australia	3.2
United Kingdom	2.5	United States	3.0
China	0.2	Botswana	2.8
India	4.6	Mauritius	3.6
Japan	2.7	Seychelles	0.3
Singapore	2.4	South Africa	4.4

Source – World Economic Outlook Database, October 2025

Note :

- (i) This publication is available on the website of Statistics Mauritius at <http://statsmauritius.govmu.org> From the homepage, choose “Publications” followed by “Economic and Social Indicators”, then “Consumer Price Index”.
- (ii) The monthly CPI is also available on our website. It is posted within 5 working days after the reference month.
- (iii) More detailed information on CPI can be made available upon request.

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Table 1A - Monthly Consumer Price Index, January 2018 - March 2026

<i>Month</i>	<i>(Base : Jan - Dec 2017 = 100)</i>							<i>(Base : Jan - Dec 2023 = 100)</i>		
	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>2025</i>	<i>2026</i>
January	103.2	103.8	105.9	107.0	114.9	128.5	135.2		105.0	109.1
February	105.3	104.4	106.6	107.9	117.6	130.5	138.6		105.7	109.5
March	105.9	104.4	107.4	108.5	120.1	131.1	137.6		106.8	109.6
April	103.8	104.4	108.8	109.0	121.0	131.0		103.2	107.1	
May	103.6	104.4	107.3	109.8	121.6	131.2		102.9	107.2	
June	102.8	103.4	105.2	111.4	122.1	131.7		102.6	108.2	
July	102.6	103.4	104.9	111.7	124.0	131.3		102.8	108.2	
August	101.9	103.7	105.3	111.6	124.4	131.7		103.2	108.1	
September	102.0	103.3	106.0	111.7	125.0	131.6		103.4	107.9	
October	102.4	102.8	106.1	112.3	125.7	131.5		103.7	107.9	
November	102.8	103.1	106.3	113.1	126.8	131.9		104.0	108.2	
December	102.4	103.3	106.1	113.3	127.1	132.0		103.5	108.2	
<i>Yearly average</i>	<i>103.2</i>	<i>103.7</i>	<i>106.3</i>	<i>110.6</i>	<i>122.5</i>	<i>131.2</i>			<i>107.4</i>	
<i>Annual change (%)</i>	+ 3.2	+ 0.5	+ 2.5	+ 4.0	+ 10.8	+ 7.0		+ 3.6	+ 3.7	

Table 1B - Comparative Monthly Consumer Price Index , January 2018 - March 2026 ^{1/}
(Base: January - December 2023 = 100)

<i>Month</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>2025</i>	<i>2026</i>
January	78.7	79.1	80.7	81.6	87.6	97.9	103.0	105.0	109.1
February	80.3	79.6	81.3	82.3	89.7	99.5	105.7	105.7	109.5
March	80.7	79.6	81.9	82.7	91.6	100.0	104.9	106.8	109.6
April	79.2	79.6	82.9	83.1	92.2	99.8	103.2	107.1	
May	79.0	79.6	81.8	83.7	92.7	100.0	102.9	107.2	
June	78.4	78.8	80.2	84.9	93.1	100.4	102.6	108.2	
July	78.2	78.8	80.0	85.2	94.6	100.1	102.8	108.2	
August	77.7	79.1	80.3	85.1	94.8	100.4	103.2	108.1	
September	77.8	78.8	80.8	85.2	95.3	100.3	103.2	107.9	
October	78.1	78.4	80.9	85.6	95.8	100.3	103.7	107.9	
November	78.4	78.6	81.0	86.2	96.7	100.6	104.0	108.2	
December	78.1	78.8	80.9	86.4	96.9	100.6	103.5	108.2	
<i>Yearly average</i>	<i>78.7</i>	<i>79.1</i>	<i>81.1</i>	<i>84.3</i>	<i>93.4</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>103.6</i>	<i>107.4</i>	
<i>Annual change (%)</i>	<i>+ 3.2</i>	<i>+ 0.5</i>	<i>+ 2.5</i>	<i>+ 4.0</i>	<i>+ 10.8</i>	<i>+ 7.0</i>	<i>+ 3.6</i>	<i>+ 3.7</i>	

^{1/} *The CPI for January 2018 to March 2023, originally based on January to December 2017, has been converted to the new base January - December 2023=100 using a linking factor of 1.311723. Example: the monthly CPI for January 2023 has been converted to the new base by dividing 128.5 by 1.311723 (\approx 97.9)*

Table 2 - Net contribution of main commodities that affected the index from December 2025 to March 2026

Commodity	Contribution to change in overall index point	Percentage change in price index
Vegetables	+0.3	+7.9
Other food products	+0.1	+0.6
Whisky	+0.1	+11.5
Workman's wages	+0.2	+16.7
Doctors' fees	+0.1	+5.9
Motor vehicles	-0.1	-1.0
Private secondary tuition fees	+0.1	+8.2
Other prepared foods	+0.1	+5.0
Home Insurance	+0.1	+7.6
Medical Insurance	+0.1	+3.4
Goods for personal care and hygiene	+0.1	+2.7
Other goods and services	+0.2	+0.5
Overall	+1.4	+1.3

Table 3 : Monthly sub-indices by division of consumption expenditure, December 2025 to March 2026

(Base: January - December 2023 = 100)

Division	Description	Weight	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Percentage change ¹ between December 2025 to March 2026
01	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	250	109.0	109.8	110.6	110.8	+1.6
02	Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	106	112.4	112.8	113.1	113.4	+0.9
03	Clothing and footwear	41	106.7	107.1	107.4	107.5	+0.7
04	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	100	100.9	103.0	103.0	102.9	+2.0
05	Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	48	110.6	111.6	111.3	112.0	+1.3
06	Health	49	116.7	118.2	118.1	118.1	+1.2
07	Transport	159	102.2	102.2	102.0	102.3	-
08	Information and Communication	70	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	-
09	Recreation, sports and culture	20	108.8	108.8	109.0	109.3	+0.5
10	Education services	32	111.9	116.1	116.1	116.1	+3.7
11	Restaurants and accommodation services	52	120.9	121.4	122.5	122.7	+1.5
12	Insurance and financial services	41	115.1	119.1	119.1	119.1	+3.5
13	Personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services	32	108.2	109.5	111.0	111.8	+3.3
All Divisions		1000	108.2	109.1	109.5	109.6	+1.3

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Note: Percentage change has been computed from unrounded indices and hence may vary slightly from the change in rounded indices.

Table 4 - Monthly CPI by division and group of consumption expenditure,
December 2025 to March 2026 (Base: January - December 2023 = 100)

Item description	Weight	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26
DIVISION 01 - FOOD AND NON ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	250	109.0	109.8	110.6	110.8
Group 1 - Food	231	107.6	108.4	109.3	109.5
Group 2: Non alcoholic beverages	19.0	126.0	126.6	126.7	126.3
DIVISION 02 - ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	106	112.4	112.8	113.1	113.4
Group 1 - Alcoholic beverages	57	116.8	117.4	118.1	118.6
Group 2 - Tobacco	49	107.3	107.3	107.3	107.3
DIVISION 03 - CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	41	106.7	107.1	107.4	107.5
Group 1 - Clothing	31	106.4	107.0	107.3	107.5
Group 2 - Footwear	10	107.4	107.4	107.4	107.4
DIVISION 04 - HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	100	100.9	103.0	103.0	102.9
Group 1 - Actual rentals for housing	10	102.2	102.2	102.2	103.7
Group 2 - Mortgage Interest on housing loan	30	95.1	95.1	95.1	93.5
Group 3 - Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	14	127.1	141.7	141.7	141.9
Group 4 - Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling	7	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.2
Group 5 - Electricity, gas and other fuels	39	95.2	95.2	95.2	96.0
DIVISION 05 - FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE HOSEHOLD MAINTENANCE	48	110.6	111.6	111.3	112.0
Group 1 - Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings	9	109.9	109.1	106.6	106.5
Group 2 - Household textiles	3	109.7	109.7	109.7	109.7
Group 3 - Household appliances	9	102.1	102.9	102.9	101.6

Table 4 (contd.) - Monthly CPI by division and group of consumption expenditure,

December 2025 to March 2026 (Base: January - December 2023 = 100)

Item description	Weight	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26
Group 4 - Glassware, tableware and household utensils	2	106.5	106.9	106.9	106.9
Group 5 - Tools and equipment for house and garden	2	106.1	106.3	106.3	106.5
Group 6 - Goods and services for routine household maintenance	23	115.1	117.0	117.4	119.5
DIVISION 06 - HEALTH	49	116.7	118.2	118.1	118.1
Group 1 - Medical products, appliances and equipment	20	113.9	114.0	112.9	112.8
Group 2 - Outpatient services	11	112.9	118.3	118.3	118.3
Group 3 - Hospital services	15	125.2	125.2	125.2	125.2
Group 4 - Other Health services	3	107.6	110.3	117.4	117.4
DIVISION 07 - TRANSPORT	159	102.2	102.2	102.0	102.3
Group 1 - Purchase of vehicles	44	120.8	120.7	119.8	119.6
Group 2 - Operation of personal transport equipment	85	90.8	91.3	91.4	91.9
Group 3 - Transport services	30	107.4	106.1	106.0	106.2
DIVISION 08 - INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION	70	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7
Group 1 - Information and communication equipment	6	100.6	100.7	100.4	100.6
Group 3 - Information and communication services	64	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7
DIVISION 09 - RECREATION, SPORT AND CULTURE	20	108.8	108.8	109.0	109.3
Group 2 - Other recreational goods	6	102.0	102.0	101.6	102.4
Group 3 - Garden products and pets	4	112.7	113.8	113.7	113.2
Group 4 - Recreational services	2	119.7	119.7	121.7	121.7
Group 6 - Cultural services	2	108.4	109.6	109.2	109.3

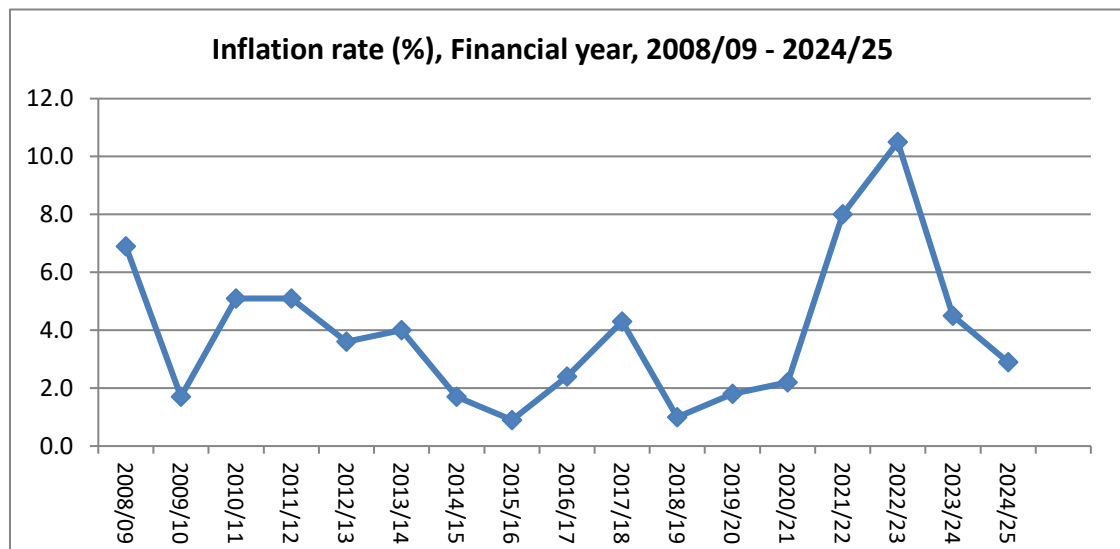
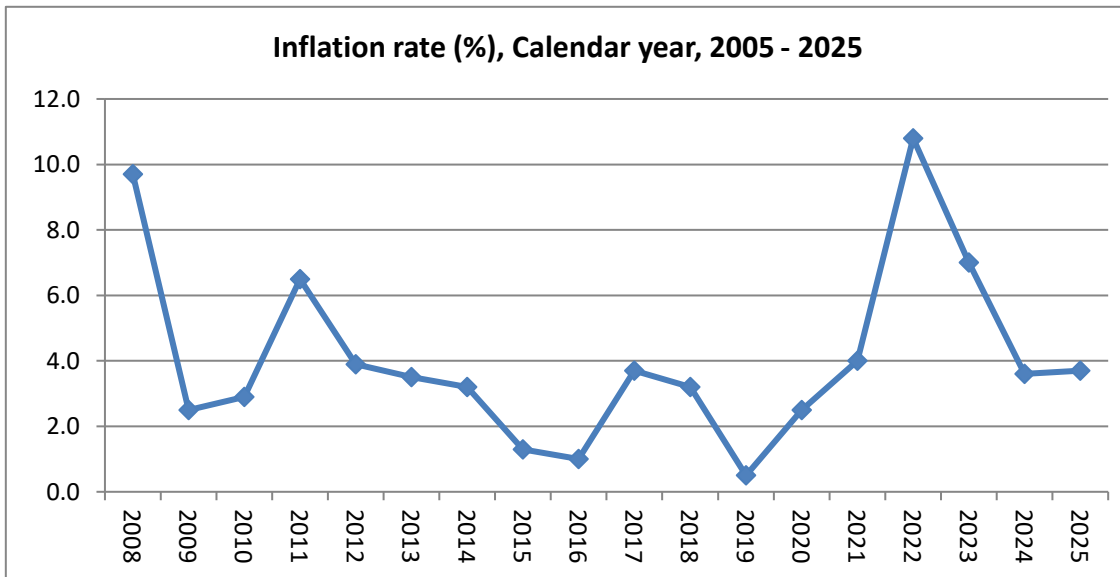
Table 4 (contd.) - Monthly CPI by division and group of consumption expenditure,

December 2025 to March 2026 (Base: January - December 2023 = 100)

Item description	Weight	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26
Group 7 - Newspapers, books and stationery	6	109.4	108.4	108.9	109.3
DIVISION 10 - EDUCATION SERVICES	32	111.9	116.1	116.1	116.1
Group 1 - Early childhood and primary education	5	126.4	137.3	137.3	137.3
Group 2 - Secondary education	1	116.0	119.5	119.5	119.5
Group 3 - Post-secondary and non-tertiary education	1	110.2	113.1	113.1	113.1
Group 4 - Tertiary education	18	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.0
Group 5 - Education not defined by level	7	113.9	124.4	124.4	124.4
DIVISION 11 - RESTAURANTS AND ACCOMMODATION SERVICES	52	120.9	121.4	122.5	122.7
Group 1 - Food and beverage serving services	50	121.3	121.9	123.1	123.4
Group 2 - Accommodation services	2	109.8	109.8	105.9	105.9
DIVISION 12 - INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	41	115.1	119.1	119.1	119.1
Group 1 - Insurance	40	115.4	119.5	119.5	119.5
Group 2 - Financial Services	1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
SOCIAL PROTECTION AND MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	32	108.2	109.5	111.0	111.8
Group 1 - Personal care	23	106.0	107.0	109.1	109.6
Group 2 - Other personal effects	5	109.1	109.1	108.9	111.5
Group 3 - Social protection	2	128.5	136.1	136.1	136.1
Group 9 - Other services	2	111.9	112.7	112.7	113.4
All Divisions	1000	108.2	109.1	109.5	109.6

Table 5 - Headline inflation rate (%), 2008 - 2025

<i>Calendar year</i>	<i>Inflation rate</i>	<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>Inflation rate</i>
2008	9.7	2008/09	6.9
2009	2.5	2009/10	1.7
2010	2.9	2010/11	5.1
2011	6.5	2011/12	5.1
2012	3.9	2012/13	3.6
2013	3.5	2013/14	4.0
2014	3.2	2014/15	1.7
2015	1.3	2015/16	0.9
2016	1.0	2016/17	2.4
2017	3.7	2017/18	4.3
2018	3.2	2018/19	1.0
2019	0.5	2019/20	1.8
2020	2.5	2020/21	2.2
2021	4.0	2021/22	8.0
2022	10.8	2022/23	10.5
2023	7.0	2023/24	4.5
2024	3.6	2024/25	2.9
2025	3.7		



Technical note

1. Methodology used for the computation of the Consumer Price Index (Base period: January - December 2023 = 100)

(a) Definition

The **Consumer Price Index** (CPI) is an indicator of changes over time in the general level of prices of goods and services acquired by Mauritian consumers.

(b) Measurement of the CPI

The CPI measures price change by comparing, through time, the cost of a fixed basket of goods and services. As prices vary over time, the total cost of the basket also changes and thus the CPI measures the change in the cost of this basket. It provides a way to compare what this basket costs at a given period relative to a reference or base period.

The cost of the CPI basket is assigned a value of 100 in the base period and the costs in other periods are expressed as percentage changes compared to the base period. For example, if the CPI is 110, this means that there has been an increase of 10% in the cost of the basket since the base year; similarly an index of 90 means a 10% decrease in the cost of the basket.

(c) The CPI basket

The CPI basket is based on the expenditures of private households in a reference period, currently January to December 2023. The composition of the current CPI basket has been derived from the 2023 Household Budget Survey (HBS) data. It has been determined in accordance with latest ILO and SADC recommendations.

The items constituting the basket have been selected on the basis of the importance of household consumption expenditure on them. The basket includes all important items on which consumption expenditure is significant, i.e. accounting for around 0.1% or more of total household consumption expenditure. Each item's relative importance, which is called the "weight" (usually expressed on a total of 1000), is the expenditure share of the item. Non-consumption items such as income tax, social security contributions, purchase of land, shares and life insurance are excluded.

The commodities in the basket are classified according to the UN COICOP (Classification of Consumption Expenditure according to Purpose) with 13 divisions, 44 groups, 92 classes and 173 subclasses.

(d) Price coverage

The prices used in the CPI calculation are those that any member of the public would have to pay to purchase the specified goods or services. Any taxes on products attached to the goods are included.

Price collection is done on a regular basis. Each month, around 8,740 price quotations are collected in respect of around 1,300 item indicators from some 610 outlets selected to be representative of regions across the islands of Mauritius and Rodrigues.

Prices of non-perishable items are collected monthly in the nine geographical districts of the island of Mauritius and in Rodrigues.

Prices of fresh fruits, vegetables, meat and fish are collected on a weekly basis from 9 markets in Port Louis, Rose Hill, Quatre Bornes, Vacoas, Rose Belle, Flacq, Goodlands, Pamplemousses and Port Mathurin.

Information on rent is obtained from a quarterly rent survey of some 100 rented dwellings.

(e) Formula for computation of the CPI

The CPI is computed according to the Laspeyres Formula as a weighted average of price relatives of individual items. The weights are fixed and correspond to the base period expenditures. The Laspeyres Index measures the cost of a basket of goods and services at different points in time, relative to the cost of the same basket in the base period.

The formula used for computing the CPI at time t is

$$I_t = \frac{\sum W_i (P_{it} / P_{i0})}{\sum W_i} \times 100$$

where,

I_t : CPI for period t with reference to a base period 0

P_{i0} : Price of item i at time 0, i.e. during base period

P_{it} : Price of item i at time t

W_i : Weight of item i

The base period is January to December 2023, the period during which the latest HBS was conducted.

2. Inflation

(a) Definition of Inflation

Inflation is the percentage change in the level of prices (as measured by the CPI) from one period to another.

(b) Calculating the Inflation Rate

The headline inflation rate in Mauritius, like in many other countries, is calculated by using the annual average method, i.e. by comparing the average level of prices during a twelve-month period with the average level during the corresponding previous twelve-month period. This type of inflation rate is more appropriate for adjusting wages, salaries and pensions to compensate for loss of purchasing power. *All inflation rates presented in this publication relate to the headline inflation.*

Another commonly used method of calculating the inflation rate is the so called ‘year-on-year’ method. The year-on-year inflation rate is calculated as the percentage change in the CPI for a given month with respect to the CPI for the corresponding month of the previous year. It is generally used by central banks for monetary policy decisions. Year-on-year inflation rates are not presented in this publication but can be easily calculated through the available monthly CPI.

Note: More information about the concept, computation and use of the CPI is available online in the publication “Household Budget Survey”.

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