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STATISTICAL RELEASE
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Consumer Price Index

September 2026

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Key findings

Headline consumer price index (CPI) for all urban areas

Annual consumer price inflation was 4,5% in September 2026, up from 4,4% in August 2026. The CPI increased by 0,4% month-on-month in September 2026.

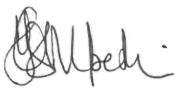
The main contributors to the 4,5% annual inflation rate were:

- transport (10,8% and contributing 1,5 percentage points);
- housing and utilities (5,2% and contributing 1,3 percentage points); and
- insurance and financial services (5,4% and contributing 0,6 of a percentage point) – see Table C and Table E.

In September 2026, the annual inflation rate for:

- goods was 4,1%, up from 3,3% in August 2026; and
- services was 4,9%, down from 5,1% in August 2026 – see Table A.

Note: Not all items in the CPI are surveyed every month. Table F shows the survey schedule for items that are not surveyed monthly. Additional surveys are conducted for these items when Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) is aware of significant price changes outside regular survey months.



Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

Detailed results

Table A – Consumer price index: Main indices[1]

Group			Weight	Index (Dec 2024=100)			% change	
				Sep 2025	Aug 2026	Sep 2026	Sep 2026 vs. Aug 2026	Sep 2026 vs. Sep 2025
All items (CPI Headline)			100,00	103,4	107,7	108,1	0,4	4,5
CPI excluding food and non-alcoholic beverages (NAB), fuel and energy			74,53	103,0	106,9	107,1	0,2	4,0
Trimmed mean			..	102,4	105,5	105,7	0,2	3,2
Analytical series	**CPI for all goods**		48,37	103,2	106,8	107,4	0,6	4,1
	CPI for durable goods		7,66	99,4	99,1	99,1	0,0	-0,3
	CPI for semi-durable goods		5,84	100,9	101,4	101,4	0,0	0,5
	CPI for non-durable goods		34,87	104,4	109,5	110,2	0,6	5,6
	CPI for services		51,63	103,6	108,4	108,7	0,3	4,9
	CPI for administered prices		12,90	105,3	116,8	119,0	1,9	13,0
	CPI excluding administered prices		87,10	103,1	106,3	106,5	0,2	3,3
	CPI for administered prices excluding fuel and paraffin		9,05	107,1	114,7	114,6	-0,1	7,0
	CPI excluding food and NAB		81,77	103,2	108,1	108,7	0,6	5,3
	CPI excluding fuel		96,20	103,5	107,1	107,2	0,1	3,6
	CPI excluding food and NAB and fuel		77,97	103,3	107,5	107,6	0,1	4,2
	CPI excluding housing		75,90	103,1	107,2	107,6	0,4	4,4
	CPI excluding fuel and energy		92,76	103,3	106,7	106,8	0,1	3,4
	CPI excluding energy		96,56	103,2	107,3	107,7	0,4	4,4
	CPI excluding owners' equivalent rent		88,84	103,5	107,9	108,3	0,4	4,6
	CPI for pensioners		..	103,8	108,3	108,7	0,4	4,7
Geographic indices	**CPI for total country**		100,00	103,4	107,5	107,9	0,4	4,4
	CPI for rural areas		11,44	103,2	106,1	106,4	0,3	3,1
	CPI per province	**Western Cape**	18,06	103,5	108,7	109,2	0,5	5,5
		Eastern Cape	7,65	102,9	107,1	107,7	0,6	4,7
		Northern Cape	1,82	103,1	106,8	107,2	0,4	4,0
		Free State	4,14	103,0	107,1	107,6	0,5	4,5
		KwaZulu-Natal	14,58	103,5	107,3	107,6	0,3	4,0
		North West	5,38	103,7	107,4	108,0	0,6	4,1
		Gauteng	35,87	103,4	107,4	107,8	0,4	4,3
		Mpumalanga	6,41	103,0	106,7	107,1	0,4	4,0
		Limpopo	6,09	103,8	106,7	106,9	0,2	3,0
Deciles	**CPI per expenditure decile**	**1**	0,71	102,7	105,8	106,1	0,3	3,3
		2	1,31	102,8	105,8	106,0	0,2	3,1
		3	1,85	102,9	105,9	106,2	0,3	3,2
		4	2,54	102,9	106,1	106,5	0,4	3,5
		5	3,30	102,9	106,2	106,6	0,4	3,6
		6	4,42	103,0	106,5	106,9	0,4	3,8
		7	6,23	103,1	106,7	107,1	0,4	3,9
		8	8,89	103,3	107,3	107,7	0,4	4,3
		9	15,03	103,4	107,8	108,3	0,5	4,7
		10	55,72	103,6	108,2	108,6	0,4	4,8

[1] Unless otherwise stated the table refers to all urban areas.

Table B – CPI headline

Table B1 – CPI headline index numbers (Dec 2024=100)

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average[1]
2022	86,3	86,8	87,7	88,2	88,8	89,8	91,1	91,3	91,4	91,7	92,0	92,3	89,8
2023	92,2	92,9	93,9	94,2	94,4	94,6	95,4	95,7	96,3	97,2	97,1	97,1	95,1
2024	97,2	98,1	98,9	99,1	99,3	99,4	99,8	99,9	100,0	99,9	99,9	100,0	99,3
2025	100,3	101,2	101,6	101,9	102,1	102,4	103,3	103,2	103,4	103,5	103,4	103,6	102,5
2026	103,8	104,2	104,8	106,0	106,7	107,5	107,7	107,7	108,1	..	..	..	..

Table B2 – CPI headline year-on-year rates

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average[1]
2022	5,7	5,7	5,9	5,9	6,5	7,4	7,8	7,6	7,5	7,6	7,4	7,2	6,9
2023	6,9	7,0	7,1	6,8	6,3	5,4	4,7	4,8	5,4	5,9	5,5	5,1	6,0
2024	5,3	5,6	5,3	5,2	5,2	5,1	4,6	4,4	3,8	2,8	2,9	3,0	4,4
2025	3,2	3,2	2,7	2,8	2,8	3,0	3,5	3,3	3,4	3,6	3,5	3,6	3,2
2026	3,5	3,0	3,1	4,0	4,5	5,0	4,3	4,4	4,5	..	..	..	..

[1] Annual average.

Figure 1 – CPI headline index numbers and year-on-year rates

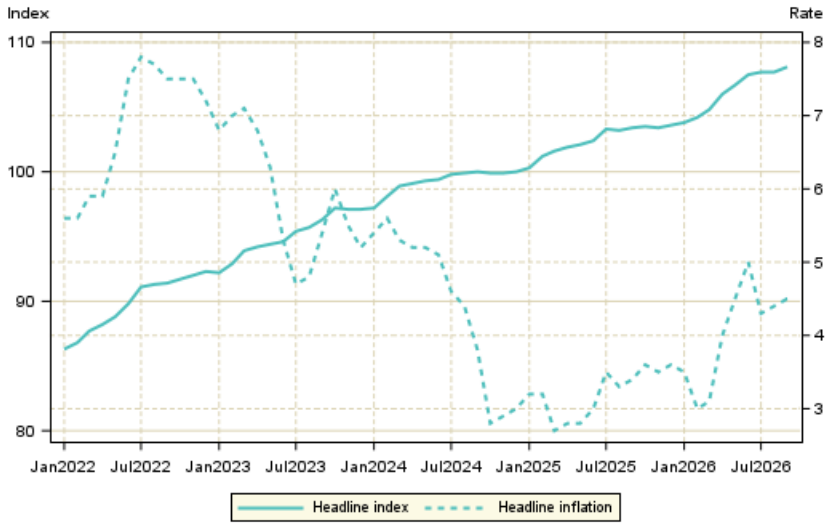


Table C – Contributions of the different groups to the annual percentage change in the CPI headline

Group	Contribution (% point)	
	Aug 2026	Sep 2026
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	0,2	0,2
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	0,2	0,2
Housing and utilities	1,3	1,3
Health	0,1	0,1
Transport	1,2	1,5
Information and communication	0,1	0,1
Recreation, sport and culture	0,1	0,1
Education services	0,1	0,1
Restaurants and accommodation services	0,3	0,3
Insurance and financial services	0,6	0,6
Personal care and miscellaneous services	0,1	0,1
Residual	0,1	-0,1
All items	4,4	4,5

Table D – Contributions of the different groups to the monthly percentage change in the CPI headline

Group	Contribution (% point)	
	Aug 2026	Sep 2026
Housing and utilities	0,0	0,1
Transport	-0,1	0,3
Residual	0,1	0,0
All items	0,0	0,4

Table E – Consumer price indices for all urban areas

Group			Weight	Index (Dec 2024=100)			% change	
				Sep 2025	Aug 2026	Sep 2026	Sep 2026 vs. Aug 2026	Sep 2026 vs. Sep 2025
All items (CPI Headline)			100,00	103,4	107,7	108,1	0,4	4,5
Food and non-alcoholic beverages			18,23	104,3	105,6	105,5	-0,1	1,2
	Food		16,84	104,3	105,4	105,3	-0,1	1,0
		Processed	7,73	105,2	104,9	104,5	-0,4	-0,7
		Unprocessed	9,11	103,3	106,1	106,3	0,2	2,9
		Cereal products	4,14	102,6	100,3	100,6	0,3	-1,9
		Meat	5,10	110,8	111,9	111,6	-0,3	0,7
		Fish and other seafood	0,43	103,5	110,9	111,8	0,8	8,0
		Milk, other dairy products and eggs	1,83	99,0	101,5	101,4	-0,1	2,4
		Oils and fats	0,82	102,6	105,3	105,7	0,4	3,0
		Fruits and nuts	0,62	89,5	85,1	85,2	0,1	-4,8
		Vegetables	1,74	103,2	108,5	106,8	-1,6	3,5
		Sugar, confectionery and desserts	0,92	102,7	104,3	104,2	-0,1	1,5
		Other food	1,24	102,9	106,7	107,0	0,3	4,0
	Non-alcoholic beverages		1,39	103,2	107,9	107,8	-0,1	4,5
		Hot beverages	0,39	107,7	112,6	111,9	-0,6	3,9
		Cold beverages	1,00	101,4	106,1	106,2	0,1	4,7
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco			4,64	104,1	107,7	107,8	0,1	3,6
	Alcoholic beverages		3,51	104,1	107,4	107,4	0,0	3,2
		Spirits and liqueurs	0,77	103,2	104,6	104,0	-0,6	0,8
		Wine	0,97	105,2	106,9	107,2	0,3	1,9
		Beer	1,77	103,9	108,8	109,0	0,2	4,9
	Tobacco		1,13	104,1	108,6	109,0	0,4	4,7
Clothing and footwear			3,90	101,0	102,0	102,2	0,2	1,2
	Clothing		2,85	101,0	102,0	102,2	0,2	1,2
	Footwear		1,05	101,1	101,9	102,0	0,1	0,9
Housing and utilities			24,10	104,3	109,1	109,7	0,5	5,2
	Actual rentals for housing		4,37	102,9	106,0	106,9	0,8	3,9
	Owners' equivalent rent		11,16	102,7	105,7	106,6	0,9	3,8
	Maintenance and repair		0,64	102,6	107,6	107,6	0,0	4,9
	Water supply and miscellaneous services		3,83	106,9	114,6	114,8	0,2	7,4
	Electricity, gas and other fuels		4,10	108,2	116,7	116,7	0,0	7,9
Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance			3,33	100,8	101,6	102,0	0,4	1,2
	Furniture, furnishings and loose carpets		0,53	98,3	96,8	96,5	-0,3	-1,8
	Household textiles, appliances, tableware and equipment		0,97	98,4	96,3	95,9	-0,4	-2,5
	Goods and services for routine household maintenance		1,83	102,8	105,8	106,8	0,9	3,9
		Domestic services	1,52	103,0	106,1	107,2	1,0	4,1
Health			1,78	104,9	108,2	108,3	0,1	3,2
	Medicines and health products		0,90	104,3	106,1	106,2	0,1	1,8
	Health services		0,88	105,6	110,4	110,5	0,1	4,6

Table E – Consumer price indices for all urban areas (concluded)

Group			Weight	Index (Dec 2024=100)			% change	
				Sep 2025	Aug 2026	Sep 2026	Sep 2026 vs. Aug 2026	Sep 2026 vs. Sep 2025
Transport			13,89	100,6	109,3	111,5	2,0	10,8
	Purchase of vehicles		5,61	100,8	101,6	101,7	0,1	0,9
	Operation of personal transport equipment		5,28	102,1	117,9	123,3	4,6	20,8
		Fuel	3,80	101,1	121,7	129,3	6,2	27,9
		Other goods and services	1,48	104,9	108,1	107,8	-0,3	2,8
	Passenger transport services		2,91	97,2	108,6	109,2	0,6	12,3
	Transport services of goods		0,09	101,3	105,5	108,2	2,6	6,8
Information and communication			5,47	101,0	103,1	103,1	0,0	2,1
	Information and communication equipment		0,94	91,9	87,5	87,5	0,0	-4,8
	Information and communication services		4,53	102,8	106,3	106,3	0,0	3,4
Recreation, sport and culture			2,94	102,8	105,6	106,1	0,5	3,2
	Recreational goods		0,78	99,1	99,2	99,4	0,2	0,3
	Recreational and cultural services		1,85	103,6	108,1	108,5	0,4	4,7
	Newspapers, books and stationery		0,25	109,8	108,0	109,5	1,4	-0,3
	Package holidays		0,06	98,6	100,1	103,5	3,4	5,0
Education services			2,41	104,5	110,1	110,1	0,0	5,4
	Primary and secondary		1,41	105,0	111,5	111,5	0,0	6,2
	Tertiary		1,00	103,7	108,1	108,1	0,0	4,2
Restaurants and accommodation services			6,12	102,0	106,9	106,5	-0,4	4,4
	Catering services	**Restaurants**	4,75	101,1	106,5	106,9	0,4	5,7
	Accommodation services		1,37	105,3	108,0	105,3	-2,5	0,0
Insurance and financial services			10,41	107,1	113,2	112,9	-0,3	5,4
	Insurance		8,41	107,5	113,9	113,5	-0,4	5,6
	Financial services		2,00	105,2	110,3	110,3	0,0	4,8
Personal care and miscellaneous services			2,78	102,8	105,4	105,5	0,1	2,6
	Personal care		1,40	101,8	102,4	102,7	0,3	0,9
	Other services		1,38	103,8	108,4	108,4	0,0	4,4

Table F – Survey schedule for non-monthly surveys

Quarterly	
January, April, July and October	Satellite TV Gym fees Funeral expenses, funeral policies, gravestone, membership fees for professional associations and trade unions Games of chance (quality adjusted monthly)
February, May, August and November	Hospitals
March, June, September and December	Actual rentals for housing, owners' equivalent rent Domestic services Taxi, bus and train fares Motor vehicle insurance Inpatient care facilities Clinic services
Biannual	
January and July	Building insurance, household content insurance
May and November	Electricians, plumbers
Annual	
February	General practitioners, gynaecologists, paediatricians, physicians, orthopaedic surgeons, optometrists, physiotherapists and pathology services Health insurance
March	School and university tuition fees Toll facilities University boarding fees Crèche fees After school centres
July	Municipal charges for water supply, assessment rates, electricity, sewage removal and refuse collection
Other	
January, February, March, April, May, August, September, October, November, December	Sports tickets

Additional surveys are conducted for these items when Stats SA is aware of significant price changes outside regular survey months.

Glossary[1]

Annual inflation rate / inflation rate	The annual inflation rate is the change in the index of the relevant month of the current year compared with the index of the same month in the previous year expressed as a percentage. The inflation rate is the annual change in the CPI for all items.
Annual percentage change	The annual percentage change is the change in the index of the relevant month of the current year compared with the index of the same month in the previous year expressed as a percentage.
Average annual inflation rate	The average annual inflation rate is the change in the average index of one year compared with the average index of the previous year expressed as a percentage.
Average annual percentage change	The average annual percentage change is the change in the average index of one year compared with the average index of the previous year expressed as a percentage.
CPI for administered prices	An administered price refers to the price of a product or service set directly or significantly influenced by the government, either directly or through its agencies, without relying on market forces. This includes prices charged by the private sector but controlled by the government. Products and services included are water supply, refuse collection, sewage removal, assessment rates, electricity, gas in cylinders, paraffin, prescription medicine, dispensing fees, diesel, petrol, toll fees, motor vehicle licence and registration fees, train fares, local bus fares, primary education (public), secondary education (public), tertiary education (public) and university boarding fees.
CPI per expenditure decile	Decile 1 – up to R35 864 Decile 2 – R35 865 up to R51 168 Decile 3 – R51 169 up to R64 855 Decile 4 – R64 856 up to R80 320 Decile 5 – R80 321 up to R97 976 Decile 6 – R97 977 up to R120 028 Decile 7 – R120 029 up to R150 774 Decile 8 – R150 775 up to R202 419 Decile 9 – R202 420 up to R307 885 Decile 10 – R307 886 and more
Monthly percentage change	The monthly percentage change is the change in the index of the relevant month compared with the index of the previous month expressed as a percentage.
Respondent response rate	The respondent response rate for September 2026 was 98,9%. The rate was calculated by means of the total number of outlets where prices were collected as a percentage of the total sample.
Rural CPI	The rural CPI is compiled using data from rural and urban areas in accordance with the purchasing patterns of rural residents.

Historical data	Historical CPI data are available on the Stats SA webpage. Click on the following link (Time series data) to access the data electronically.

[1] A complete set of definitions is available in the sources and methods document on the Stats SA website: https://www.statssa.gov.za/?page_id=16474.

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