



# UGANDA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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## PRESS RELEASE

### CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION MARCH 2026

#### 1.1 Annual Headline Inflation

The Annual Inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Uganda for the 12 months to March 2026 is 2.8 percent compared to 2.9 percent registered in the year ended February 2026, see Table 1 and Figure 1 below.

In particular, Annual Core Inflation registered 2.9 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 3.0 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026. Annual Services Inflation recorded 4.0 percent in March 2026 compared to 4.1 percent registered in February 2026. This is mainly due to Annual Restaurants and Accommodation Services Inflation (recorded at 3.7 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 4.0 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026). In addition, Annual Core Goods Inflation registered 2.0 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 2.1 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026. This is attributed to Maize flour (whose rate of price change is 8.3 percent compared to 10.8 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026), Dried fish (whose inflation is 5.2 percent compared to 8.5 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026), Live chicken (whose inflation is minus 0.3 percent compared to 4.5 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026) and Refined oil (whose rate of price change is 2.2 percent compared to 4.1 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026).

In addition, Annual Food Crops and Related Items Inflation registered 1.0 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 1.8 percent registered in the year ended February 2026. This is attributed to Fresh milk (whose rate of price change is minus 4.0 percent compared to 3.7 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026), Passion fruits (whose rate of price change is minus 4.7 percent compared to 7.7 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026), Pineapples (whose rate of price change is minus 0.7 percent compared to 19.4 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026) and Onions (whose rate of price change is 1.4 percent compared to 4.4 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026).

However, Annual Energy Fuel and Utilities (EFU) Inflation increased to 4.1 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 2.7 percent registered in the year ended February 2026. This is mainly due to Annual Solid Fuels Inflation that increased to 10.5 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 7.3 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026. Particularly, Charcoal (whose rate of price change is 8.1 percent compared to 6.0 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026) and Firewood (whose rate of price change is 16.2 percent compared to 10.3 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026). In addition, Annual Liquid Energy Fuels Inflation increased to 2.8 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 1.7 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026. Particularly, Petrol (whose rate of price change is 4.4 percent compared to 3.4 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026) and Diesel (whose rate of price change is 3.0 percent compared to 0.8 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026).

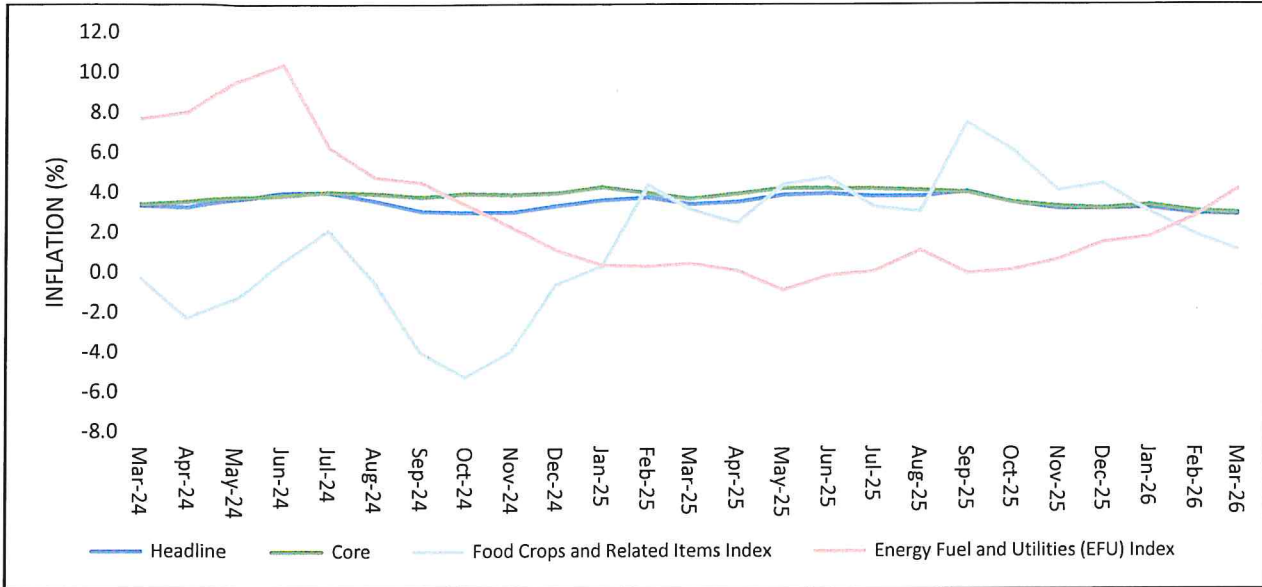
Table 1 and Figure 1 below show the components of the Annual Headline Inflation for the year ending March 2026.

**Table 1: Annual Headline, Core, Food Crops and EFU Inflation for February 2026 and March 2026.**

Description	Weights	February 2026	March 2026
<b>Headline</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.8</b>
<b>Core</b>	<b>839.6200</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Other Goods	455.5070	2.1	2.0
Services	384.1130	4.1	4.0
<b>Food Crops and Related Items</b>	<b>95.1046</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>Energy Fuel and Utilities (EFU)</b>	<b>65.2755</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>4.1</b>

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**Figure 1: Annual Headline, Core, Food Crops and EFU Inflation: March 2024 - March 2026**



The overall Annual Consumer Price Indices for the 12 months to March 2026 are shown in Table 2 below.

**Table 2: Overall Annual CPI and Inflation (Base: 2016/17=100)**

Month	Overall CPI	Annual Inflation
March 2026	139.23	2.8
February 2026	139.06	2.9
January 2026	138.58	3.2
December 2025	138.11	3.1
November 2025	137.46	3.1
October 2025	137.59	3.4
September 2025	137.61	4.0
August 2025	136.97	3.8
July 2025	136.73	3.8
June 2025	136.90	3.9
May 2025	136.77	3.8
April 2025	136.09	3.5
March 2025	135.43	3.4
February 2025	135.19	3.7

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# Key Annual Inflation Drivers

**Annual Services Inflation for the year ending March 2026 is at 4.0% compared to 4.1% in the year ended February 2026**

Changes in Inflation for selected items under Services

## February 2026

- Restaurants and Accommodation Services 4.0%



## March 2026

- Restaurants and Accommodation Services 3.7%

**Annual Food Crops and Related Items Inflation for the year ending March 2026 is at 1.0% compared to 1.8% in the year ended February 2026**

Changes in prices for selected items under Food Crops and Related Items

## February 2026

- Fresh milk 3.7%
- Passion fruits 7.7%
- Pineapples 19.4%
- Onions 4.4%



## March 2026

- Fresh milk -4.0%
- Passion fruits -4.7%
- Pineapples -0.7%
- Onions 1.4%

**Annual Energy, Fuel and Utilities Inflation for the year ending March 2026 is at 4.1% compared to 2.7% in the year ended February 2026**

Changes in prices for selected items under Energy, Fuel and Utilities

## February 2026

- Charcoal 6.0%
- Firewood 10.3%
- Petrol 3.4%
- Diesel 0.8%



## March 2026

- Charcoal 8.1%
- Firewood 16.2%
- Petrol 4.4%
- Diesel 3.0%

## 1.2 Annual Inflation by COICOP Divisions

According to the Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP), the main drivers to the 2.8 percent Inflation were 'Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages' Inflation that registered 2.6 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 2.8 percent registered in the year ended February 2026. 'Restaurants and Accommodation Services' Inflation recorded 3.7 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 4.0 percent registered in the year ended February 2026. 'Insurance and Financial Services' Inflation registered 11.6 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 12.3 percent registered in the year ended February 2026. 'Information and Communication' Inflation registered 1.6 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 2.0 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026. 'Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household' Inflation registered 1.0 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 1.2 percent registered in the year ended February 2026. 'Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' Inflation registered 0.6 percent for the year ending March 2026 compared to 0.7 percent recorded for the year ended February 2026. 'Health' Inflation registered 2.7 percent for the year ending March 2026 compared to 2.8 percent registered for the year ended February 2026. 'Education Services' Inflation registered 4.1 percent in the year ending March 2026 same rate recorded in the year ended February 2026. 'Clothing and Footwear' Inflation registered 1.9 percent in the year ending March 2026 same rate recorded in the year ended February 2026. 'Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods' Inflation registered 2.2 percent for the year ending March 2026 same rate registered for the year ended February 2026.

However, 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Inflation registered 4.6 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 3.9 percent registered in the year ended February 2026. 'Transport' Inflation registered 1.6 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 1.5 percent recorded in the year ended February 2026. 'Recreation, Sport and Culture' Inflation registered 2.4 percent in the year ending March 2026 compared to 2.2 percent registered in the year ended February 2026, see Table 3 below.

**Table 3: Annual Changes in the Consumer Price Indices for the COICOP Divisions.**

<b>13 COICOP Divisions</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Annual % Change February 2025 - February 2026</b>	<b>Annual % Change March 2025 - March 2026</b>
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	270.5390	2.8	2.6
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	38.7958	0.7	0.6
Clothing and Footwear	69.7729	1.9	1.9
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	104.1617	3.9	4.6
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household	48.3672	1.2	1.0
Health	47.4695	2.8	2.7
Transport	104.5479	1.5	1.6
Information and Communication	44.3216	2.0	1.6
Recreation, Sport and Culture	49.8494	2.2	2.4
Education Services	57.9558	4.1	4.1
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	87.3791	4.0	3.7
Insurance and Financial Services	22.7953	12.3	11.6
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods	54.0447	2.2	2.2
<b>Overall</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.8</b>

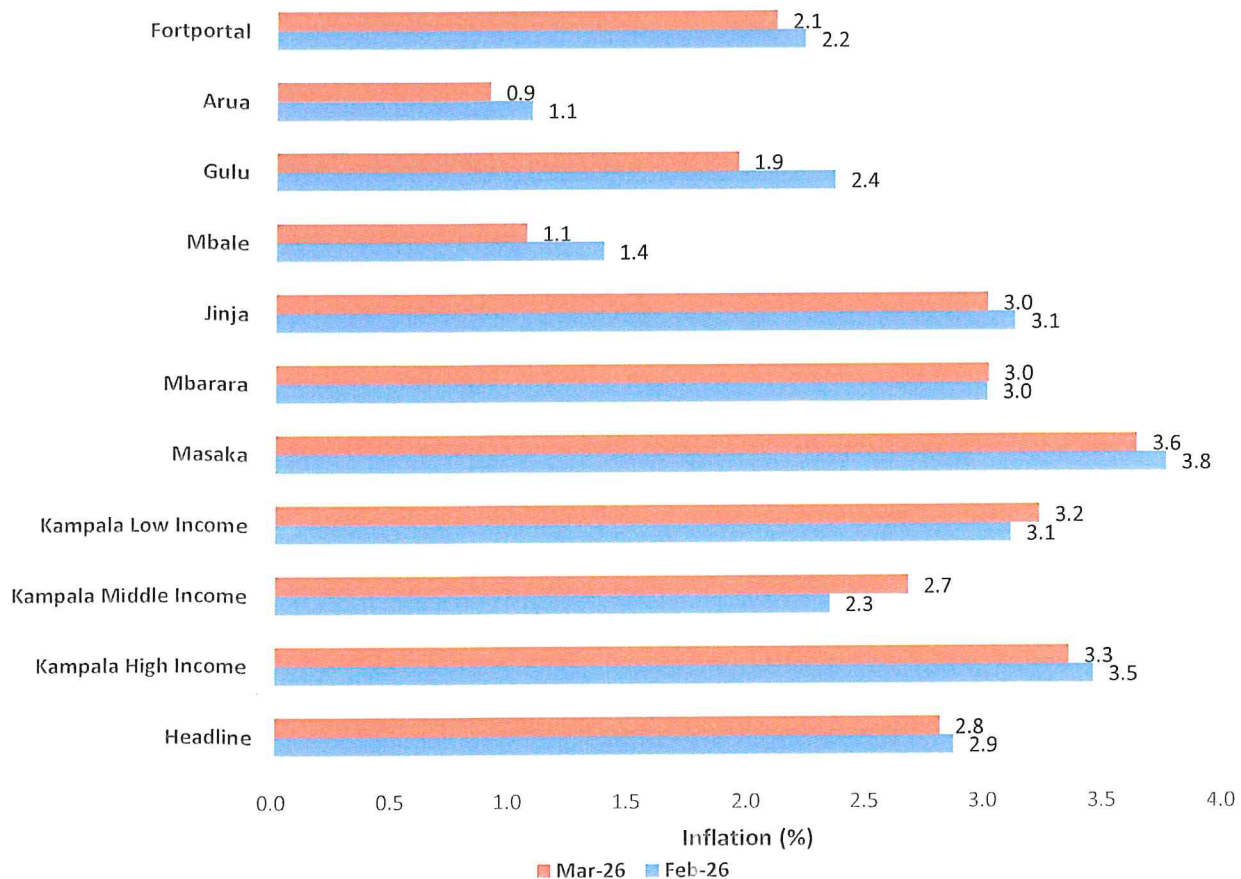
### 1.3 Annual Headline Inflation by CPI Geographical Center

Analysis by geographical areas and income groups revealed that Masaka registered the highest Inflation at 3.6 percent for the year ending March 2026 compared to 3.8 percent recorded in February 2026. This was mainly driven by annual 'Health' Inflation that increased to 7.0 percent in March 2026 compared to 5.4 percent registered in February 2026. In addition, annual 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' Inflation increased to 4.9 percent in March 2026 compared to 4.3 percent registered in February 2026.

The second highest Inflation was registered in Kampala High Income at 3.3 percent for the year ending March 2026 compared to 3.5 percent recorded in February 2026. This was mainly driven by annual 'Recreation, Sport and Culture' inflation that registered 4.0 percent in March 2026 compared to 2.6 percent registered in February 2026. In addition, Annual 'Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages' Inflation registered 4.6 percent in March 2026 compared to 4.4 percent registered in February 2026.

The least Annual Inflation was registered in Arua Centre at 0.9 percent for the year ending March 2026 compared to 1.1 percent recorded in February 2026. This was mainly due to the annual 'Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages' Inflation that registered minus 0.5 percent in March 2026 compared to 0.1 percent registered in February 2026. In addition, Annual 'Clothing and Footwear' Inflation registered minus 0.6 percent in March 2026 compared to 0.1 percent registered in February 2026.

**Figure 2: Annual Inflation by CPI Geographical Center for the 12 months to February 2026 and March 2026**



#### 1.4 Monthly Inflation.

The Monthly Headline Inflation for March 2026 increased by 0.1 percent from 0.3 percent rise registered in February 2026, Table 4 below.

This was mainly due to monthly Energy Fuel and Utilities (EFU) Inflation that registered a 1.0 percent increase in March 2026 from the 0.6 percent rise registered in February 2026. This was mainly due to monthly Solid Fuels Inflation that increased by 2.2 percent in March 2026 from the 0.9 percent rise registered in February 2026. Particularly, firewood prices increased by 3.5 percent in March 2026 from the 2.1 percent rise recorded in February 2026 and charcoal prices increased by 1.6 percent in March 2026 from the 0.4 percent rise registered in February 2026. In addition, monthly Liquid Energy Fuels Inflation increased by 0.9 percent in March 2026 from the 1.0 percent rise registered in February 2026. Particularly, petrol prices increased by 0.8 percent in March 2026 from the 1.4 percent rise recorded in February 2026 and diesel prices increased by 2.3 percent in March 2026 from the 0.8 percent rise recorded in February 2026.

Monthly Food Crops and Related Items Inflation registered 0.3 percent increase in March 2026 from the 0.4 percent rise recorded in February 2026. This was attributed to the increase in prices of Tomatoes by 6.6 percent in March 2026 from the 3.0 percent rise recorded in February 2026, Irish potatoes by 5.2 percent in March 2026 from the 2.4 percent rise recorded in February 2026, Sweet potatoes by 5.5 percent in March 2026 from the 2.9 percent drop recorded in February 2026, Dry beans by 1.0 percent in March 2026 from the 0.6 percent rise recorded in February 2026 and Water melon by 12.9 percent in March 2026 from the 2.1 percent rise recorded in February 2026.

Monthly Core Inflation registered by 0.0 percent in March 2026 from the 0.3 percent rise registered in February 2026. This was mainly due to monthly Services Inflation that increased by 0.1 percent in March 2026 from the 0.2 percent rise recorded in February 2026. However, monthly Core Goods Inflation decreased by 0.1 percent in March 2026 from the 0.4 percent rise recorded in February 2026.

**Table 4: Monthly Headline, Core, Food Crops and EFU Inflation for February 2026 and March 2026.**

Description	Weights	February 2026	March 2026
<b>Headline</b>	<b>1000.0000</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<b>Core</b>	<b>839.6200</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Other Goods	455.5070	0.4	-0.1
Services	384.1130	0.2	0.1
<b>Food Crops and Related Items</b>	<b>95.1046</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Energy Fuel and Utilities (EFU)</b>	<b>65.2755</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>1.0</b>

The overall monthly Consumer Price Indices and Inflation from February 2025 to March 2026 are shown in Table 5 below.

**Table 5: Overall Monthly CPI and Rates of Inflation (Base: 2016/17=100)**

Month	Overall CPI	Monthly Inflation
March 2026	139.23	0.1
February 2026	139.06	0.3
January 2026	138.58	0.3
December 2025	138.11	0.5
November 2025	137.46	-0.1
October 2025	137.59	0.0
September 2025	137.61	0.5
August 2025	136.97	0.2
July 2025	136.73	-0.1
June 2025	136.90	0.1
May 2025	136.77	0.5
April 2025	136.09	0.5
March 2025	135.43	0.2
February 2025	135.19	0.6

### 1.5 Monthly Inflation by COICOP Divisions

According to the Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP), Monthly Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels Inflation increased by 0.5 percent in March 2026 from the 0.6 percent rise recorded in February 2026. Monthly Transport Inflation registered 0.3 percent rise in March 2026 from the 0.6 percent drop recorded in February 2026. Monthly Restaurants and Accommodation Services Inflation increased by 0.2 percent in March 2026 from the 0.3 percent rise recorded in February 2026. Monthly Recreation, Sport and Culture Inflation registered 0.3 percent rise in March 2026 from 0.4 percent rise recorded in February 2026. Monthly Health Inflation increased by 0.3 percent in March 2026 from 0.1 percent rise recorded in February 2026. Monthly Clothing and Footwear Inflation increased by 0.1 percent in March 2026 from the 0.3 percent rise recorded in February 2026. Monthly Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics Inflation registered 0.1 percent rise in March 2026 from 0.0 percent recorded in February 2026. Monthly Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Inflation increased by 0.1 percent in March 2026 from the 0.1 percent rise recorded in February 2026. Monthly Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods Inflation registered 0.0 percent in March 2026 from 0.3 percent rise recorded in February 2026. Monthly Information and Communication Inflation recorded 0.0 percent in March 2026 same rate recorded in February 2026. Monthly Insurance and Financial Services Inflation recorded 0.0 percent in March 2026 same rate recorded in February 2026. Monthly Education Services Inflation registered 0.0 percent in March 2026 from the 1.0 percent rise recorded in February 2026.

However, monthly Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages Inflation decreased by 0.1 percent in March 2026 from the 0.8 percent rise recorded in February 2026.

**Table 6: Monthly Changes in the Consumer Price Indices for the COICOP Divisions.**

<b>13 COICOP Divisions</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Monthly %Change January 2026-February 2026</b>	<b>Monthly % Change February 2026 – March 2026</b>
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	270.5390	0.8	-0.1
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	38.7958	0.0	0.1
Clothing and Footwear	69.7729	0.3	0.1
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	104.1617	0.6	0.5
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household	48.3672	0.1	0.1
Health	47.4695	0.1	0.3
Transport	104.5479	-0.6	0.3
Information and Communication	44.3216	0.0	0.0
Recreation, Sport and Culture	49.8494	0.4	0.3
Education Services	57.9558	1.0	0.0
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	87.3791	0.3	0.2
Insurance and Financial Services	22.7953	0.0	0.0
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods	54.0447	0.3	0.0
<b>Overall</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.1</b>

# Key Monthly Inflation Drivers

Monthly Services Inflation for March 2026 is 0.1% from 0.2% in February 2026

Changes in Prices for selected items under Services

## February 2026

- Restaurants and Accommodation Services 0.3%
- Passenger Transport Services -1.8%



## March 2026

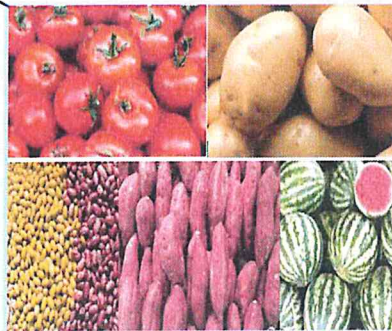
- Restaurants and Accommodation Services 0.2%
- Passenger Transport Services 0.2%

Monthly Food Crops and Related Items Inflation for March 2026 is 0.3% from 0.4% in February 2026.

Changes in Prices for selected items under Food Crops and Related Items

## February 2026

- Tomatoes 3.0%
- Irish Potatoes 2.4%
- Sweet Potatoes -2.9%
- Dry beans 0.6%
- Watermelon 2.1%



## March 2026

- Tomatoes 6.6%
- Irish Potatoes 5.2%
- Sweet Potatoes 5.5%
- Dry beans 1.0%
- Watermelon 12.9%

Monthly Energy, Fuel and Utilities Inflation for March 2026 is 1.0% from 0.6% in February 2026

Changes in Prices for selected items under Energy, Fuel and Utilities

## February 2026

- Petrol 1.4%
- Diesel 0.8%
- Charcoal 0.4%
- Firewood 2.1%



## March 2026

- Petrol 0.8%
- Diesel 2.3%
- Charcoal 1.6%
- Firewood 3.5%

Relative to March 2025 and February 2026, the national average retail prices of selected commodities in March 2026 are shown in Table 7 below.

**Table 7: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities**

<b>Commodity Name</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Unit of Measure</b>	<b>Average Price March 2025</b>	<b>Average Price February 2026</b>	<b>Average Price March 2026</b>
Tomatoes	1	Kg	2,786	2,401	2,510
Irish potatoes	1	Kg	2,024	2,036	2,058
Sweet potatoes	1	Kg	1,168	1,067	1,133
Dry beans	1	Kg	4,552	3,929	3,988
Beef	1	Kg	15,798	17,529	17,690
Maize Flour	1	Kg	2,497	2,718	2,697
Rice	1	Kg	4,526	4,873	4,933
Local chicken	1	Kg	18,487	19,625	18,925
Refined oil	1	Litre	9,254	9,352	9,331
Petrol	1	Litre	4,974	5,130	5,158
Diesel	1	Litre	4,669	4,739	4,831