



PRESS RELEASE

CONSUMER PRICE INDICES AND INFLATION

MARCH 2023

1.1 Annual Headline Inflation

The Annual Inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Uganda for the 12 months to March 2023 is registered at 9.0 percent compared to the 9.2 percent registered in the year ended February 2023. This is mainly due to the slight slowdown in Annual Core Inflation that registered 7.6 percent in the year ending March 2023 compared to 7.8 percent registered in the year ended February 2023.

The Annual Core Inflation was mainly attributed to the Annual Other Goods Inflation that registered 10.4 percent in the year ending March 2023 compared to 10.9 percent in the year ended February 2023. The main driver was laundry soap inflation that registered 4.4 percent in March 2023 compared to 21.5 percent registered in February 2023. In addition, sugar inflation registered 38.7 percent in March 2023 compared to 42.8 percent registered in February 2023.

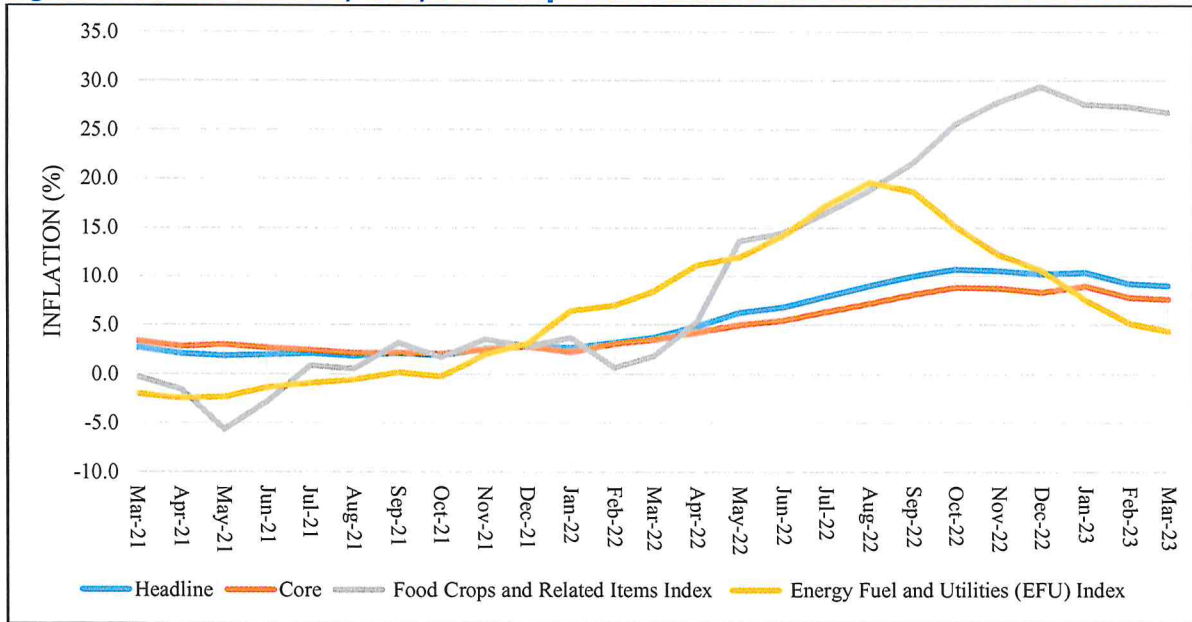
The Annual Food Crops and Related Items inflation slowed down to 26.7 percent in the year ending March 2023 compared to 27.4 percent registered in the year ended February 2023. This was mainly due to tomatoes inflation that registered 33.3 percent in March 2023 compared to 44.0 percent registered in February 2023, matooke inflation that registered 47.4 percent in March 2023 compared to 61.0 percent in February 2023 and cassava inflation that registered 65.8 percent in March 2023 compared to 82.0 percent in February 2023.

The Annual Energy Fuel and Utilities (EFU) inflation slowed down to 4.4 percent in the year ending March 2023 compared to 5.2 percent registered in the year ended February 2023. This was mainly due to solid fuels inflation that registered 7.2 percent in March 2023 compared to 8.6 percent in February 2023. In particular, charcoal inflation registered 7.7 percent in March 2023 compared to 10.2 percent in February 2023. In addition, petrol inflation slowed down to 0.2 percent in March 2023 compared to 1.5 percent in February 2023 as shown in Table 1 and Figure 1.

Table 1: Annual Headline, Core, Food Crops and EFU Inflation for February 2023 and March 2023.

Description	Weights	February 2023	March 2023
Headline	1000.00	9.2	9.0
Core	839.62	7.8	7.6
Other Goods	455.51	10.9	10.4
Services	384.11	4.1	4.3
Food Crops and Related Items	95.10	27.4	26.7
Energy Fuel and Utilities (EFU)	65.28	5.2	4.4

Figure 1: Annual Headline, Core, Food crops and EFU Inflation: March 2021 – March 2023.



The overall Annual Consumer Price Indices for the 12 months to March 2023 are shown in Table 2 below.

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

Month	Overall CPI	Annual Inflation
March 2023	126.87	9.0
February 2023	126.07	9.2
January 2023	126.19	10.4
December 2022	126.38	10.2
November 2022	126.21	10.6
October 2022	126.13	10.7
September 2022	125.10	10.0
August 2022	123.24	9.0
July 2022	122.04	7.9
June 2022	120.88	6.8
May 2022	119.73	6.3
April 2022	117.98	4.9
March 2022	116.38	3.7

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Key Inflation Drivers

Annual Other Goods Inflation

February 2023 at 10.9%

- Laundry Bar Soap 21.5%
- Sugar 42.8%
- Mukene 37.4%
- Iron Sheets 27.3%
- Refined oil 4.6%



March 2023 at 10.4%

- Laundry Bar Soap 4.4%
- Sugar 38.7%
- Mukene 24.1%
- Iron Sheets 18.2%
- Refined oil 2.8%



Annual Food Crops and Related Items Inflation

February 2023 at 27.4%

- Tomatoes 44.0%
- Matooke-bunch 61.0%
- Cassava 82.0%
- Onions -14.4%
- Sweet Potatoes 39.2%



March 2023 at 26.7%

- Tomatoes 33.3%
- Matooke-bunch 47.4%
- Cassava 65.8%
- Onions -22.9%
- Sweet Potatoes 31.3%



Annual Energy, Fuel and Utilities Inflation

February 2023 at 5.2%

- Charcoal 10.2%
- Petrol 1.5%
- Diesel 22.6%



March 2023 at 4.4%

- Charcoal 7.7%
- Petrol 0.2%
- Diesel 16.9%



1.2 Annual Inflation by COICOP Divisions

According to the Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP), the main drivers to the registered inflation were commodities under; 'Furnishings, household equipment and routine household' whose inflation registered 5.4 percent in the year ending March 2023 compared to 9.0 percent registered in the year ended February 2023. 'Transport' inflation was registered at 4.3 percent in March 2023 compared to 5.4 percent registered in February 2023.

Recreation, Sport and Culture decreased to 3.3 percent for the year ending March 2023 compared to 5.0 percent registered for the year ended February 2023. 'Housing, water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' inflation registered 4.3 percent for the year ending March 2023 compared to 5.0 percent registered for the year ended February 2023.

However, there was an increase in price of commodities under; Education Services whose inflation was registered at 7.3 percent for the year ending March 2023 compared to 4.3 percent for the year ended February 2023. In addition, Information and Communication Inflation registered 1.2 percent for the year ending March 2023 compared to 0.2 percent for the year ended February 2023 as shown in Table 3 below.

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

13 COICOP Divisions	Weight	Annual % Change February 2022- February 2023	Annual % Change March 2022- March 2023
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	270.54	20.9	20.9
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	38.80	9.0	9.1
Clothing and Footwear	69.77	3.7	3.7
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	104.16	5.0	4.3
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household	48.37	9.0	5.4
Health	47.47	1.6	1.8
Transport	104.55	5.4	4.3
Information and Communication	44.32	0.2	1.2
Recreation, Sport and Culture	49.85	5.0	3.3
Education Services	57.96	4.3	7.3
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	87.38	6.4	6.3
Insurance and Financial Services	22.80	-0.3	-0.3
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods	54.04	8.3	8.6
Overall	1,000.00	9.2	9.0

1.3 Annual Goods Inflation

The goods inflation for the 12 months to March 2023 was registered at 12.0 percent compared to 12.4 percent registered in February 2023. This was mainly due to annual inflation for non-durable (ND) goods that was registered at 15.0 percent for the 12 months to March 2023 compared to 15.5 percent registered in February 2023. In addition, Annual inflation for semi-durable goods (SD) registered 3.5 percent in March 2023 compared to 3.7 percent registered in February 2023. Annual inflation for durable (D) goods was registered at 1.6 percent for the 12 months to March 2023 compared to 1.8 percent registered in the year ended February 2023 as shown in Table 4 below.

Table 4: Annual National Goods Inflation for February 2023 and March 2023.

Description	Weights	February 2023	March 2023
Headline	1000.00	9.2	9.0
Goods	615.89	12.4	12.0
Non-Durable (ND)	466.83	15.5	15.0
Semi-Durables (SD)	114.36	3.7	3.5
Durables (D)	34.69	1.8	1.6

1.4 Monthly Inflation.

The Monthly Headline Inflation for March 2023 increased by 0.6 percent compared to 0.1 percent drop recorded in the month of February 2023 as shown in Table 5 below.

The main driver was the monthly core inflation that increased by 0.4 percent in March 2023 from the 0.0 percent recorded in February 2023. This was mainly due to monthly services inflation that increased by 0.6 percent in March 2023 from the 0.4 percent rise recorded in February 2023. Specifically, primary education inflation increased by 5.1 percent in March 2023 from the 0.2 percent rise recorded in February 2023. In addition, monthly other goods inflation increased by 0.3 percent in March 2023 from the 0.3 percent drop registered in February 2023. The rise in monthly other goods inflation was mainly due to the monthly rice inflation that increased by 2.3 percent in March 2023 from the 1.4 percent drop recorded in February 2023. Maize flour inflation increased by 1.8 percent in March 2023 from the 21.4 percent drop recorded in February 2023.

Food crops and related items monthly inflation registered a 3.2 percent rise in March 2023, from the 0.4 percent drop registered in February 2023. This was mainly due to monthly beans inflation that increased by 10.1 percent in March 2023 from the 3.9 percent rise recorded in February 2023. In addition, Irish potatoes inflation increased by 9.0 percent in March 2023 from the 0.2 percent drop recorded in February 2023.

Energy Fuel and Utilities (EFU) inflation decreased by 0.1 percent in March 2023 from the 0.9 percent drop in February 2023. The drop in EFU was mainly due to solid fuels inflation that decreased by 0.8 percent in March 2023 compared to the 0.3 percent rise recorded in February 2023. Specifically, monthly firewood inflation decreased by 2.4 percent in March 2023 from the 2.0 percent rise registered in February 2023.

Table 5: Monthly Headline, Core, Food Crops and EFU Inflation for February 2023 and March 2023.

Description	Weights	February 2023	March 2023
Headline	1000.00	-0.1	0.6
Core	839.62	0.0	0.4
Other Goods	455.51	-0.3	0.3
Services	384.11	0.4	0.6
Food Crops and Related Items	95.10	-0.4	3.2
Energy Fuel and Utilities (EFU)	65.28	-0.9	-0.1

The overall monthly consumer price indices and inflation from February 2022 to March 2023 are shown in Table 6 below.

Table 6: Overall Monthly CPI and Rates of Inflation (Base: 2016/17=100)

Month	Overall CPI	Monthly Inflation Rate
March 2023	126.87	0.6
February 2023	126.07	-0.1
January 2023	126.19	-0.2
December 2022	126.38	0.1
November 2022	126.21	0.1
October 2022	126.13	0.8
September 2022	125.10	1.5
August 2022	123.24	1.0
July 2022	122.04	1.0
June 2022	120.88	1.0
May 2022	119.73	1.5
April 2022	117.98	1.4
March 2022	116.38	0.8

1.5 Monthly Inflation by COICOP Divisions

The monthly headline inflation for March 2023 increased by 0.6 percent compared to 0.1 percent drop recorded in the month of February 2023. This was mainly attributed to the Monthly Food and

Non- Alcoholic Beverages Inflation that increased by 1.4 percent in March 2023 from the 1.2 percent drop recorded in February 2023. In addition, Monthly 'education services' inflation increased by 2.9 percent in the month of March 2023 from the 0.2 percent rise recorded in February 2023. Monthly restaurants and accommodation services inflation increased by 1.5 percent in March 2023 from the 0.7 percent rise recorded in February 2023.

However, transport inflation decreased by 0.6 percent in March 2023 from the 0.4 percent rise recorded in February 2023. Monthly healthinflation decreased by 0.4 percent in March 2023 from the 0.1 percent rise recorded in February 2023. Monthly Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels inflation decreased by 0.2 percent in March 2023 from 0.1 percent rise registered in February 2023 as indicated in Table 7 below.

Table 7: Monthly Changes in the Consumer Price Indices for the COICOP Divisions.

13 COICOP Divisions	Weight	Monthly % Change January 2023- February 2023	Monthly % Change February 2023 - March 2023
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	270.54	-1.2	1.4
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	38.8	0.9	-0.1
Clothing and Footwear	69.77	0.6	0.3
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	104.16	0.1	-0.2
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household	48.37	-0.3	0.4
Health	47.47	0.1	-0.4
Transport	104.55	0.4	-0.6
Information and Communication	44.32	0.3	0.2
Recreation, Sport and Culture	49.85	-0.0	-0.0
Education Services	57.96	0.2	2.9
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	87.38	0.7	1.5
Insurance and Financial Services	22.8	-0.0	0.0
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous Goods	54.04	0.9	0.3
Overall	1,000.00	-0.1	0.6

Relative to March 2022 and March 2023, the national average retail prices of selected commodities in March 2023 are shown in Table 8 below.

Table 8: National Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities

Commodity Name	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Average Price March 2022	Average Price February 2023	Average Price March 2023
Rice	1	Kg	3,625	5,275	5,326
Maize flour	1	Kg	2,072	3,262	3,362
Beef	1	Kg	13,861	13,916	14,120
Sugar	1	Kg	3,545	5,163	4,942
Groundnuts (Pounded)	1	Kg	6,106	7,656	7,790
Beans-Dry	1	Kg	2,829	4,182	4,730
Irish Potatoes	1	Kg	1,432	1,929	1,960
Green cabbage	1	Kg	753	882	1,027
Diesel	1	Litre	4,326	5,109	5,075
Petrol	1	Litre	5,087	5,139	5,138

1.5 Annual Headline Inflation by Income Groups and Geographical areas

Analysis by geographical areas and income groups revealed that Arua registered the highest inflation of 13.6 percent for the 12 months to March 2023 compared to 13.8 percent recorded in February 2023. This was mainly driven by annual 'Recreation, Sport and Culture' inflation that increased to 20.7 percent in March 2023 compared to 6.2 percent registered in February 2023. In addition, annual 'transport' inflation registered 5.9 percent in March 2023 compared to 2.8 percent in February 2023.

The second highest inflation was registered in Fortportal at 11.2 percent for the 12 months to March 2023 compared to 11.5 percent recorded in February 2023. This was mainly driven by annual 'housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels' inflation that registered 6.5 percent in March 2023 compared to 2.8 percent registered in February 2023. In addition, annual 'education services' inflation registered 10.5 percent in March 2023 compared to 7.5 percent in February 2023.

The least annual inflation was registered in Kampala High Income at 7.2 percent for the 12 months to March 2023 compared to 6.8 percent recorded in February 2023. This was mainly due to the annual inflation for transport that registered 5.3 percent in March 2023 compared to 6.7 percent registered in February 2023. In addition, annual 'recreation, sport and culture' inflation registered 2.2 percent in March 2023 compared to 4.1 percent in February 2023.

Figure 2: Annual Inflation by Income Groups and Geographical Areas for the 12 months to February 2023 and March 2023

