

## REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS OF RWANDA

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (C.P.I.)**  
**Kigali – March 2008**
**CAUTION**

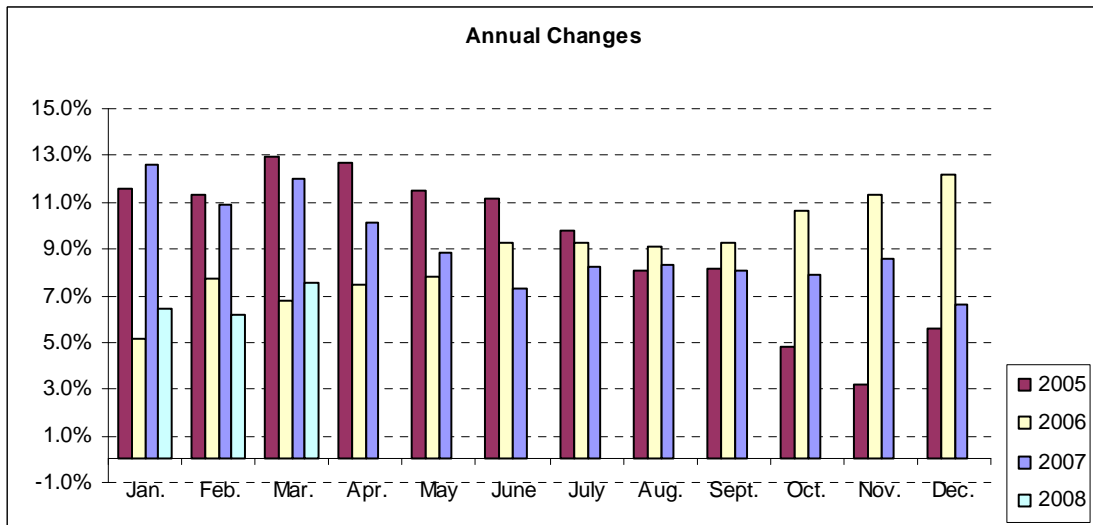
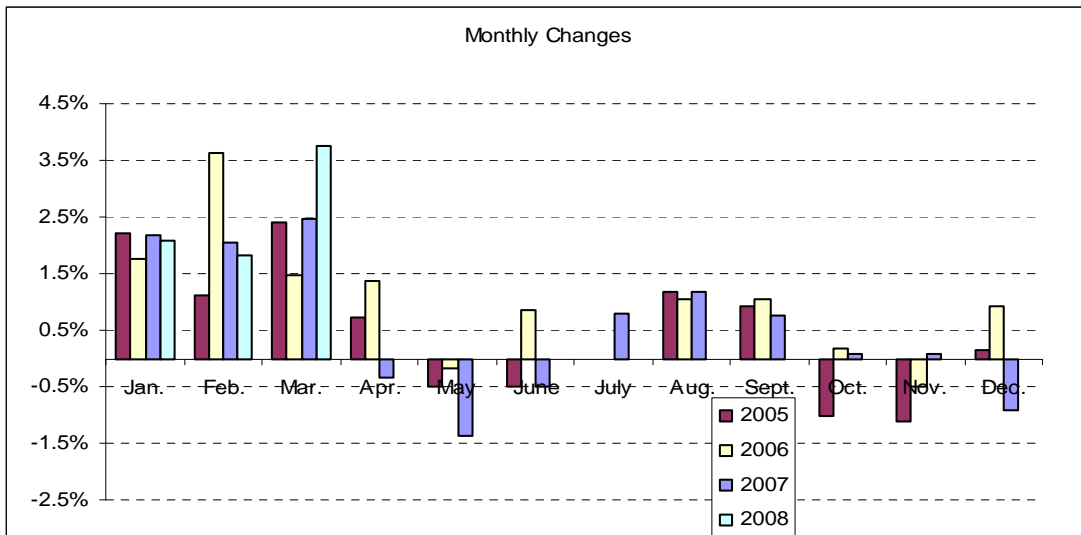
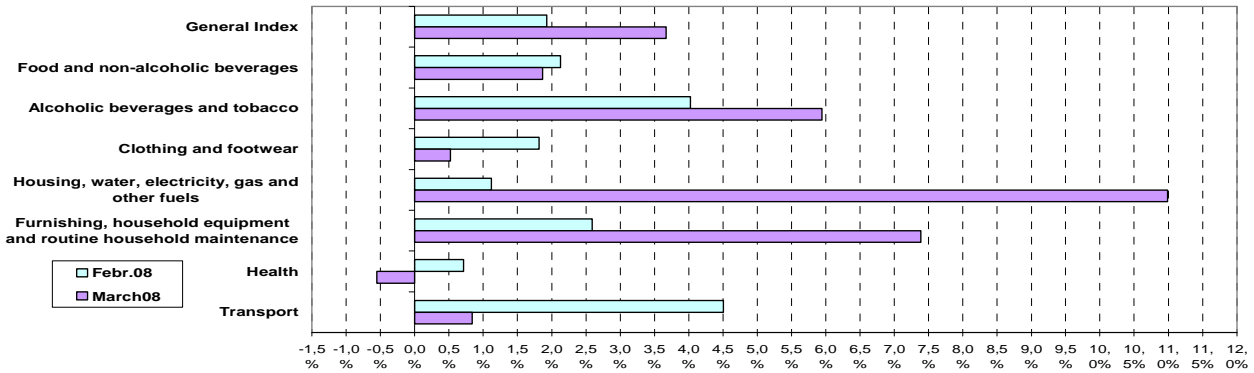
The National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda is very pleased to deliver to users the new Consumer Price Index (CPI) based in 2003 that replaces the previous one which was based in 1989. **The Index is published every month by the 15th.**

Base 100: 2003

	Divisions ❖ Groups	Weights	Indices for the following months:					Changes in % over		
			Mar 07	Dec 07	Jan 08	Feb 08	Mar 08	1 month	3 months	12 months
	<b>GENERAL INDEX</b>	<b>10 000</b>	146,4	146,0	149,0	151,9	157,5	<b>3,67</b>	7,85	7,55
<b>01</b>	<b>Food and non-alcoholic beverages</b>	<b>3 709</b>	159,6	152,8	156,1	159,4	162,4	<b>1,87</b>	6,27	1,73
0111	❖ Bread and cereals	625	155,3	155,3	162,3	165,0	164,3	-0,42	5,77	5,78
0112	❖ Meat	345	119,7	125,1	128,2	131,6	134,6	<b>2,24</b>	7,60	12,37
0113	❖ Fish	114	154,0	151,8	149,8	156,0	167,9	<b>7,65</b>	10,60	9,04
0117	❖ Vegetables	1 332	188,5	162,7	164,2	165,9	167,1	0,75	2,69	-11,32
<b>012</b>	<b>❖ Non-alcoholic beverages</b>	<b>180</b>	129,0	133,2	137,6	138,1	136,9	-0,87	2,82	6,16
<b>02</b>	<b>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco</b>	<b>221</b>	127,6	128,0	129,4	134,6	142,6	<b>5,94</b>	11,39	11,74
<b>03</b>	<b>Clothing and footwear</b>	<b>500</b>	104,2	108,5	108,7	110,6	111,2	0,52	2,53	6,74
<b>04</b>	<b>Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels</b>	<b>1 579</b>	189,6	192,4	192,9	195,1	216,5	<b>10,99</b>	12,51	14,21
<b>05</b>	<b>Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance</b>	<b>764</b>	117,3	121,1	121,4	124,6	133,8	<b>7,39</b>	10,43	14,07
<b>06</b>	<b>Health</b>	<b>708</b>	119,4	124,0	124,6	125,5	124,8	-0,55	0,66	4,51
<b>07</b>	<b>Transport</b>	<b>987</b>	123,0	130,7	136,8	142,9	144,1	0,84	10,23	17,15
<b>08</b>	<b>Communication</b>	<b>37</b>	135,3	140,2	141,6	121,5	121,4	-0,09	-13,44	-10,31
<b>09</b>	<b>Recreation and culture</b>	<b>206</b>	113,4	108,6	107,9	107,9	107,9	0,00	-0,62	-4,81
<b>10</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>432</b>	156,1	153,4	175,3	175,8	175,8	0,01	14,62	12,63
<b>11</b>	<b>Restaurants and hotels</b>	<b>273</b>	135,8	139,1	139,9	145,6	146,0	0,22	4,94	7,47
<b>12</b>	<b>Miscellaneous goods and services</b>	<b>584</b>	109,3	112,4	113,4	114,6	116,3	<b>1,50</b>	3,48	6,45

Month	Mar 07	Apr 07	May 07	Jun 07	Jul 07	Aug 07	Sep 07	Oct 07	Nov 07	Dec 07	Jan 08	Feb 08	Mar 08
Index (2003=100)	146,4	145,9	143,9	143,2	144,3	146,0	147,1	147,2	147,4	146,0	149,0	151,9	157,5
Annual changes	12,0	10,1	8,8	7,3	8,2	8,4	8,0	7,9	8,6	6,6	6,5	6,3	7,6

**Fluctuations of the general index and the divisions' index in February and March 2008**



### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI), MARCH 2008 (Base 100 = 2003)

In March 2008, the general consumer prices index is established to 157.5 this stands for an increase of 3.67% over the previous month. The annual change rises up to 7.55% instead of 6.31% in the previous month. This gives a general inflation rate by an annual average of 7.8% during the month of March 2008.

The underlying inflation rate (excluding fresh food and energy) is +2.83% if compared to the previous month and +10.80% on annual change. The annual average underlying inflation rate is 10.4% in March 2008, slightly up from the previous month (10.3%).

The increase in the consumer prices index of 3.67% is attributable primarily to the rise in prices of 'food and non-alcoholic beverages' (+1.87%), including meat (+2.24%), fish (+7.65%) and vegetables (+0.75%). Also, rising prices for Alcoholic beverages and tobacco should be noted (+5.94%), housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (+10.99%) and furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance (+7.39).

The increase in the index of 7.55% in annual change is mainly due to the rising prices of housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (+14.21%), furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance index (+14.07%), transport (+17.15%) due to increasing fuel prices and education index rise of (12.63%) due to the increase in school fees. However, communication prices decreased by (-10.31%) due to the reduction of the unit cost from 147 frw to 100 frw by MTN.

The 'local goods' are more responsible for inflation than 'imported goods. In terms of annual change, the prices of the local products have increased by 5.76% with a monthly variation of 4.27%, while prices of the imported products have risen by 10.54% with a monthly change of 2.12%.

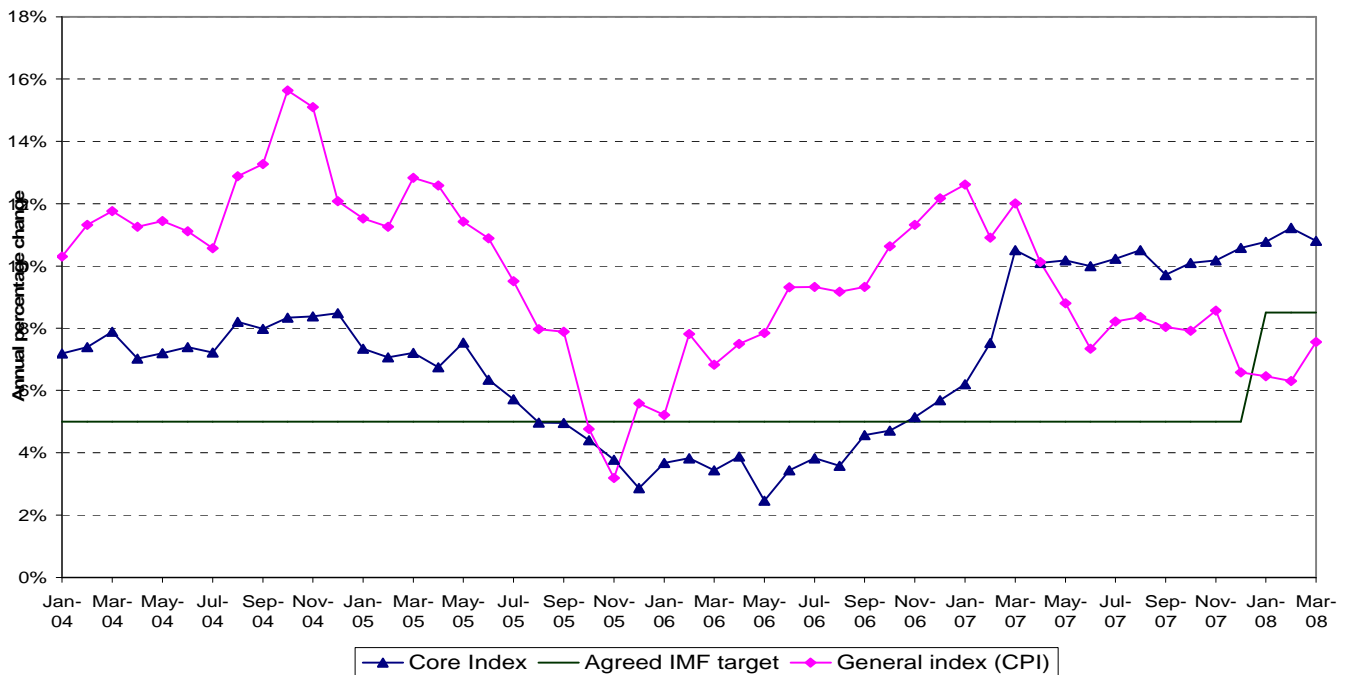
The prices of the fresh products had a negative annual variation of 8.32% between March 2008 and March 2007 at the time when the monthly variation is positive at 0.52%

#### Evolution (over 12 months) of the rate of inflation (%) <sup>(1)</sup>

MONTH	Mar. 07	Apr. 07	May 07	Jun. 07	Jul. 07	Aug. 07	Sep. 07	Oct. 07	Nov. 07	Dec. 07	Jan. 08	Feb. 08	Mar. 08
General index	10,2	10,4	10,5	10,3	10,2	10,1	10,0	9,8	9,5	9,1	8,6	8,2	7,8
Core / Underlying	5,1	5,7	6,3	6,9	7,4	8,0	8,4	8,8	9,3	9,7	10,0	10,3	10,4

(1) In March 2008 the average index of the last twelve months (April 2007 to March 2008) increased by 7.8% (general index) and 10.4% (core index) compared to the average index of the previous twelve months (April 2006 to March 2007).

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



## Other Indices

	Weights	Indices for the following months:				Changes in % over:			
		March 07	Dec-07	Jan-08	Feb-08	March 08	1 month	3 months	12 months
<b>General Index</b>	<b>10 000</b>	<b>146,4</b>	<b>146,0</b>	<b>149,0</b>	<b>151,9</b>	<b>157,5</b>	<b>3,67</b>	<b>7,85</b>	<b>7,55</b>
<b>Local Goods Index</b>	<b>6 956</b>	<b>156,7</b>	<b>153,0</b>	<b>157,9</b>	<b>158,9</b>	<b>165,7</b>	<b>4,27</b>	<b>8,32</b>	<b>5,76</b>
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	2 627	167,6	154,9	158,8	160,5	162,1	0,98	4,63	-3,32
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	1 501	189,6	191,3	191,7	193,5	216,3	11,80	13,07	14,08
Transport	698	114,0	120,5	127,6	135,7	136,7	0,70	13,39	19,90
<b>Imported Goods Index</b>	<b>3 044</b>	<b>124,9</b>	<b>129,1</b>	<b>130,8</b>	<b>135,2</b>	<b>138,1</b>	<b>2,12</b>	<b>6,96</b>	<b>10,54</b>
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	1 082	139,8	146,7	149,4	158,1	165,1	4,42	12,54	18,12
Furnishing, household equipment	533	114,9	118,1	117,6	119,1	119,3	0,12	0,98	3,85
Transport	289	144,5	155,1	158,4	161,7	161,5	-0,16	4,09	11,74
<b>Kigali Index</b>	<b>7 679</b>	<b>144,5</b>	<b>144,3</b>	<b>147,1</b>	<b>150,1</b>	<b>156,3</b>	<b>4,13</b>	<b>8,35</b>	<b>8,18</b>
<b>Provinces Index<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>2 321</b>	<b>152,8</b>	<b>151,7</b>	<b>155,5</b>	<b>157,6</b>	<b>161,2</b>	<b>2,26</b>	<b>6,27</b>	<b>5,47</b>
<b>Fresh Products index<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>2 186</b>	<b>182,5</b>	<b>161,7</b>	<b>164,6</b>	<b>166,4</b>	<b>167,3</b>	<b>0,52</b>	<b>3,44</b>	<b>-8,32</b>
<b>Energy index</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>225,3</b>	<b>231,9</b>	<b>233,3</b>	<b>238,2</b>	<b>270,9</b>	<b>13,74</b>	<b>16,85</b>	<b>20,25</b>
<b>General Index excluding fresh Products and energy<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>7 053</b>	<b>129,4</b>	<b>133,3</b>	<b>136,5</b>	<b>139,4</b>	<b>143,4</b>	<b>2,83</b>	<b>7,55</b>	<b>10,80</b>

(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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