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Mission: To coordinate the National Statistical System(NSS) and produce accurate, timely and reliable culturally relevant and internationally comparable statistical data for evidence-based planning, decision making, research, policy, program formulation and monitoring and evaluation to satisfy the needs of users and Producers.

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1. Improved national Consumer Price Index

The Bureau of Statistics has re-based the national Consumer Price Index.

The Consumer Price Index measures the change in the cost of the goods and services in the month under review compared with an earlier period. The annual inflation rate is the change in the CPI for all items of the relevant month of the current year compared with the CPI for all items of the same month in the previous year expressed as a percentage.

The national CPI encompasses all the expenditures on goods and services in Lesotho by private households. It is a measure of average inflation, based on average household expenditure on the items in the shopping basket.

The expenditure weights are used to aggregate prices for different categories of goods and services so that each takes an appropriate share to replicate consumer behavior and the basket of items priced reflects expenditure and shopping patterns from the 2017/2018 Household Budget Survey.

The prices used in the calculation of the CPI reflect the cash prices typically paid by the reference population for the goods and services within the scope of the index.

The indices will be rebased using the price reference period as the yearly average, so that 2022 = 100.

The new basket of Goods and Services is different from the old one that has been used to publish the CPI reports up to December 2022. Therefore, it is important to note that it is not possible to compare the detailed movement of the new CPI to old one because of the different base periods and weighting systems. However, the linking factor can be used to convert the new index to the old base.

Division Code	COICOP DIVISION	Average 2022 = 100	Rank	December 2016 = 100	Rank	March 2010 = 100	Rank
01	Food & Non-alcoholic beverages	32.61	1	36.11	1	38.14	1
02	Alcohol and Tobacco	6.41	6	3.33	9	1.22	11
03	Clothing & Footwear	8.12	4	13.06	2	17.43	2
04	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas	14.90	2	12.40	3	10.60	3
05	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	3.32	10	8.48	4	9.42	4
06	Health	1.91	11	1.50	11	1.88	9
07	Transport	11.13	3	4.82	7	8.47	5
08	Communications	4.39	9	2.10	10	1.24	10
09	Recreation and culture	1.38	12	5.71	6	2.39	8
10	Education	4.86	7	4.20	8	2.75	7
11	Restaurants and Hotels	6.55	5	1.03	12	0.66	12
12	Miscellaneous goods and services	4.41	8	7.26	5	5.81	6

2. Executive Summary

Annual Inflation rate was 6.5% in October 2023. The estimated consumer price index shows 0.7 percentage point increase month-on-month in October 2023.

The main contributors to the 6.5% annual inflation rate were Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages; Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco; Housing, Water, Electricity & Gas; Clothing & Footwear; Education and Miscellaneous goods and services.

Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages increased by 7.3% year-on-year, and contributed 2.5 percentage points to the total annual inflation rate of 6.5%.

Alcoholic Beverages& Tobacco increased by 22.5% year-on-year, and contributed 1.5 percentage points to the total annual inflation rate.

Housing,Water, Electricity & Gas increased by 5.3%year-on-year, and contributed 0.8 percentage points to the total annual Inflation rate.

Education increased by 11.4% year-on-year, and contributed 0.5 percentage points to the total annual Inflation rate.

The rest of the divisions contributed to the remaining percentage points of the total annual inflation rate.

3. Detailed Results

Table 1: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Divisions –October 2023

		Index numbers			% change	
	Weight	**Oct'22**	**Sep'23**	**Oct'23**	**M%**	**Y%**
Overall CPI	**100**	**101.99**	**107.82**	**108.62**	**0.7**	**6.5**
01. Food & Non-alcoholic beverages	32.61	102.70	109.00	110.24	1.1	7.3
02. Alcohol and Tobacco	6.41	101.93	126.51	124.88	-1.3	22.5
03. Clothing & Footwear	8.12	101.78	107.56	107.98	0.4	6.1
04. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	14.90	101.47	106.04	106.82	0.7	5.3
05. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	3.32	101.85	112.76	113.72	0.9	11.7
06 Health	1.91	100.42	114.22	114.26	0.0	13.8
07. Transport	11.13	104.51	104.49	106.70	2.1	2.1
08 Communications	4.39	100.34	99.98	99.98	0.0	-0.4
09. Recreation and culture	1.38	99.98	104.85	104.92	0.1	4.9
10. Education	4.86	100.00	111.39	111.39	0.0	11.4
11. Restaurants and Hotels	6.55	101.24	90.33	90.88	0.6	-10.2
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	4.41	100.59	111.00	111.78	0.7	11.1
Services	**36.47**	**100.96**	**104.21**	**104.33**	**0.1**	**3.3**
Non-durables	**51.29**	**102.49**	**108.45**	**109.65**	**1.1**	**7.0**
Semi durables	**9.20**	**101.69**	**107.37**	**107.79**	**0.4**	**6.0**
Durables	**3.05**	**100.09**	**105.10**	**105.86**	**0.7**	**5.8**

Table 2: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups –October 2023

		Index numbers			% change	
	Weight	**Oct'22**	**Sep'23**	**Oct'23**	**M%**	**Y%**
Overall CPI	**100.00**	**101.99**	**107.82**	**108.62**	**0.7**	**6.5**
01.1Food	30.17	102.74	109.76	111.03	1.2	8.1
01.2Non alcoholic beverages	2.45	101.48	99.70	100.51	0.8	-1.0
02.1Alcohol	5.13	102.06	124.13	122.24	-1.5	19.8
02.2Tobacco	1.28	101.22	136.03	135.44	-0.4	33.8
03.1Clothing	4.96	101.66	106.80	107.98	1.1	6.2
03.2Footwear	3.16	102.05	108.75	107.98	-0.7	5.8
04.1Actual rentals for housing	1.86	101.10	110.65	110.65	0.0	9.4
04.2Imputed rent for housing	7.58	100.00	107.86	107.86	0.0	7.9
04.3Maintanance and repair of dwelling	1.03	101.51	104.58	104.74	0.2	3.2
04.4Water and miscellaneous services relating to dwelling	0.59	105.60	100.12	100.12	0.0	-5.2
04.5Electricity, Gas and other fuels	3.84	101.62	101.51	104.50	2.9	2.8
05.1Furniture and furnishings	0.91	100.89	106.25	107.90	1.6	6.9
05.2Household textiles	0.34	101.31	103.61	104.52	0.9	3.2
05.3Househould appliances	0.58	100.06	118.37	119.76	1.2	19.7
05.4Glassware, tableware and household utensils	0.11	100.89	108.02	108.71	0.6	7.7
05.5Tools and equipment for house and garden	0.02	100.19	98.14	98.56	0.4	-1.6
05.6Goods and services for routine household maintenance	1.35	103.16	117.70	118.06	0.3	14.4
06.1Medical products, appliances and equipment	0.47	100.77	99.45	99.65	0.2	-1.1
06.2Out-patient services	1.06	100.05	125.98	125.98	0.0	25.9
06.3Hospital services	0.39	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1Purchase of vehicles	1.00	100.35	103.47	103.47	0.0	3.1
07.2Operation of personal transport	4.35	103.43	110.57	116.23	5.1	12.4
07.3Transport services	5.78	108.01	100.09	100.09	0.0	-7.3
08.2Telephone and telefax equipment	0.34	100.02	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
08.3Telephone and telefax services	4.05	100.37	99.98	99.98	0.0	-0.4
09.1Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.31	99.74	87.21	87.12	-0.1	-12.6
09.2Other major durables for recreation and culture	0.01	99.98	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.02
09.3Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	0.05	99.99	97.11	97.61	0.5	-2.4
09.4Recreational and cultural services	0.30	100.55	133.46	133.46	0.0	32.7
09.5 Newspapers, books and stationery	0.67	100.79	101.17	101.32	0.2	0.5
09.6Package holidays	0.04	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.1Pre-primary and primary	0.72	100.00	110.62	110.62	0.0	10.6
10.2Secondary education	1.52	100.00	111.31	111.31	0.0	11.3
10.3Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	0.16	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4Tertiary education	1.66	100.00	114.81	114.81	0.0	14.8
10.5Education not definable by level	0.81	100.00	107.46	107.46	0.0	7.5
11.1Catering services	6.12	101.44	86.87	87.45	0.7	-13.8
11.2Accommodation services	0.43	100.75	139.84	139.84	0.0	38.8
12.1Personal care	2.95	100.73	113.18	114.34	1.0	13.5
12.4Social Protection	0.03	100.00	100.75	100.75	0.0	0.8
12.5Insurance	0.12	100.46	100.00	100.00	0.0	-0.5
12.6Financial services n.e.c	0.07	100.32	104.83	104.83	0.0	4.5
12.7Other services	1.25	99.85	107.49	107.49	0.0	7.6

Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes –October 2023

		Index numbers			% change	
	Weight	Oct'22	Sep'23	Oct'23	M%	Y%
Overall CPI	**100.00**	**101.99**	**107.82**	**108.62**	**0.7**	**6.5**
01.1.1Bread and cereals	10.10	103.42	118.80	119.53	0.6	15.6
01.1.2Meat	9.86	101.95	98.87	100.10	1.2	-1.8
01.1.3Fish	1.13	103.48	117.53	117.64	0.1	13.7
01.1.4Milk, cheese and eggs	1.64	101.55	115.94	118.38	2.1	16.6
01.1.5Oils and fats	2.05	103.41	103.23	103.37	0.1	0.0
01.1.6Fruit	0.47	102.56	114.96	120.03	4.4	17.0
01.1.7Vegetables	2.67	102.00	110.30	114.01	3.4	11.8
01.1.8Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	1.45	101.81	115.74	116.68	0.8	14.6
01.1.9Food products n.e.c.	0.82	101.75	107.22	108.26	1.0	6.4
01.2.1Coffee, tea and cocoa	0.22	101.57	95.87	96.56	0.7	-4.9
01.2.2Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	2.23	101.38	100.07	100.90	0.8	-0.5
02.1.1Spirits	0.32	101.07	133.63	134.51	0.7	33.1
02.1.2Wine	0.09	101.33	134.57	136.04	1.1	34.3
02.1.3Beer	4.72	102.15	123.28	121.14	-1.7	18.6
02.2.1Tobacco	1.28	101.22	136.03	135.44	-0.4	33.8
03.1.1Clothing materials	0.06	100.76	111.87	112.12	0.2	11.3
03.1.2Garments	4.54	101.79	107.21	108.51	1.2	6.6
03.1.3Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	0.32	100.52	99.59	99.40	-0.2	-1.1
03.1.4Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.04	101.46	111.07	111.07	0.0	9.5
03.2.1Shoes and other footwear	3.12	102.06	108.82	108.05	-0.7	5.9
03.2.2Repair and hire of footwear	0.04	99.97	102.19	102.19	0.0	2.2
04.1.1Actual rentals paid by tenants	1.86	101.10	110.65	110.65	0.0	9.4
04.2.1Imputed rentals of owner-occupiers	7.58	100.00	107.86	107.86	0.0	7.9
04.3.1Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	0.58	102.29	103.06	103.35	0.3	1.0
04.3.2Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	0.46	100.02	106.50	106.50	0.0	6.5
04.4.1Water supply	0.26	106.96	100.21	100.21	0.0	-6.3
04.4.2Refuse collection	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.3Sewerage services	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.4Other services relating to the dwelling	0.31	100.18	100.07	100.07	0.0	-0.1
04.5.1Electricity	1.52	99.35	100.95	100.95	0.0	1.6
04.5.2Gas	1.18	100.35	100.91	103.83	2.9	3.5
04.5.3Liquid fuels	1.07	103.50	103.00	110.53	7.3	6.8
04.5.4Solid fuels	0.08	101.21	101.05	101.05	0.0	-0.2
05.1.1Furniture and furnishings	0.81	100.90	107.44	109.21	1.6	8.2
05.1.2Carpets and other floor coverings	0.05	100.51	94.69	96.30	1.7	-4.2
05.1.3Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
05.2.0Household textiles	0.34	101.31	103.71	104.64	0.9	3.3
05.2.1Repair of household textiles	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
05.3.1Major household appliances whether electric or not	0.52	99.95	120.02	121.62	1.3	21.7

Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) –October 2023

		Index numbers			% change	
	Weight	Oct'22	Sep' 23	Oct'23	M%	Y%
05.3.2Small electric household appliances	0.06	101.54	104.42	104.03	-0.4	2.5
05.3.3Repair of household appliances	0.00	100.00	114.29	114.29	0.0	14.3
05.4.1Glassware, tableware and household utensils	0.11	100.89	108.02	108.71	0.6	7.7
05.5.1Major tools and equipment	0.01	99.81	96.00	96.07	0.1	-3.7
05.5.2Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	0.01	101.41	100.03	100.77	0.7	-0.6
05.6.1Non-durable household goods	0.59	103.38	117.04	117.86	0.7	14.0
05.6.2Domestic services and home care services	0.76	100.00	118.21	118.21	0.0	18.2
06.1.1Pharmaceutical products	0.39	101.08	99.17	99.41	0.2	-1.7
06.1.2Other medical products	0.01	100.87	105.28	105.35	0.1	4.4
06.1.3Therapeutic appliances and equipment	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.2.1Medical Services	1.00	100.02	126.99	126.99	0.0	27.0
06.2.2Dental services	0.00	100.65	100.00	100.00	0.0	-0.6
06.2.3Paramedical services	0.05	100.00	110.01	110.01	0.0	10.0
06.3.1Hospital services	0.39	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.1Motor cars	0.98	100.10	103.71	103.71	0.0	3.6
07.1.2Motorcycles	0.01	100.35	100.99	100.99	0.00	0.64
07.1.3Bicycles	0.01	100.73	75.46	75.09	-0.5	-25.5
07.2.1Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	0.21	102.12	128.24	128.24	0.0	25.6
07.2.2Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	3.86	105.61	107.73	114.11	5.9	8.1
07.2.3Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	0.18	101.05	155.51	155.51	0.0	53.9
07.2.4Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	0.11	101.03	105.38	105.38	0.0	4.3
07.3.2Passenger transport by road	5.76	109.01	100.08	100.08	0.0	-8.2
07.3.3Passenger transport by air	0.01	99.52	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.5
07.3.6Other Transport services	0.01	100.00	103.76	103.76	0.0	3.8
08.2.1Telephone and telefax equipment	0.34	100.02	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
08.3.1Telephone and telefax services	4.05	100.37	99.98	99.98	0.0	-0.4
09.1.1Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	0.19	99.68	77.66	77.52	-0.2	-22.2
09.1.2Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	0.00	100.00	100.33	100.33	0.0	0.3
09.1.3Information processing equipment	0.11	102.29	102.70	102.70	0.0	0.4
09.2.2Musical instruments and major durables for indoor recreation (D)	0.01	99.98	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.02
09.3.1Games, toys and hobbies	0.02	99.74	85.64	85.63	0.0	-14.1
09.3.2Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation	0.01	100.08	102.89	104.14	1.2	4.1
09.3.3Gardens, plants and flowers	0.00	99.07	105.45	106.71	1.2	7.7
09.3.4Pets and related products	0.01	103.36	113.07	114.62	1.4	10.9
09.3.5Veterinary and other services for pets	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.1Recreational and sport services	0.02	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.2Cultural services	0.28	100.58	135.38	135.38	0.0	34.6
09.4.3Games of chance	0.01	100.00	130.01	130.01	0.0	30.0
09.5.1Books	0.41	100.15	97.43	97.43	0.0	-2.7
09.5.2Newspapers and periodicals	0.04	100.34	100.99	100.99	0.0	0.6
09.5.4Stationery and drawing materials	0.21	101.15	108.40	108.88	0.4	7.6
09.6.1Package holidays	0.04	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0

Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) –October 2023

		Index numbers			% change	
	Weight	**Oct'22**	**Sep' 23**	**Oct'23**	**M%**	**Y%**
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	0.72	100.00	110.62	110.62	0.0	10.6
10.2.1Secondary education	1.52	100.00	111.31	111.31	0.0	11.3
10.3.1Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	0.16	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4.1Tertiary education	1.66	100.00	114.81	114.81	0.0	14.8
10.5.1Education not definable by level	0.81	100.00	107.46	107.46	0.0	7.5
11.1.1Restaurants, cafés and the like	6.12	101.45	86.87	87.45	0.7	-13.8
11.2.1Accommodation services	0.43	100.75	139.84	139.84	0.0	38.8
12.1.1Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	0.54	99.97	112.72	113.63	0.8	13.7
12.1.3Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	2.41	102.90	113.28	114.50	1.1	11.3
12.4.1Social Protection services	0.03	100.00	100.75	100.75	0.0	0.8
12.5.3Insurance connected with health	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.4Insurance connected with transport	0.06	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6.2Financial services n.e.c	0.07	100.32	104.83	104.83	0.0	4.5
12.7.1Other services n.e.c	1.25	99.85	107.49	107.49	0.0	7.6