

# United Arab Emirates

## A: Identification

**Title of the CPI:** Consumer Price Index

**Organisation responsible:** National Bureau of Statistics

**Periodicity:** Monthly

**Index reference period:** Calendar year 2007

**Weights reference period:** 2007/2008 Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES)

**Main uses of CPI:** Indexation of wages, pensions and/or social security payment, indexation of rents, contracts and/or other payments, main inflation indicator used for monetary policy, macroeconomics modelling and other analytic uses.

## B: CPI Coverage

### Geographical Coverage

*Weights:* Nation-wide

*Price collection:* Nation-wide

**Population coverage:** Resident households of nationals and Residents households of foreigners in the country.

## C: Concepts, definitions, classifications and weights

**Definition of the CPI and its objectives:** The Consumer Price Index measures the change in the prices of a market basket of goods and services purchased by all types of households.

**Classification:** Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP)

**Sources of weights:** Household expenditure surveys

**Frequency of weight updates:** Above 5 years

## D: Sample design

## E: Data Collection

**Approximate number of localities, outlets and price observations:** Outlets: 430, Price observations: 1,133.

**Frequency with which prices are collected:** The prices are collected on a monthly basis in all seven emirates. Prices are collected in at least three outlets for each food item and non-food item in each Emirate. Weekly prices are collected for fish, fruits, and vegetables.

### **Methods of Price Collection**

- Personal data collection

### **Treatment of:**

**Black market prices:** Illegal goods are not covered by the CPI.

**Missing or faulty prices:** Imputation methods are used for missing prices.

**Disappearance of a given type or quality from the market:** If an item is no longer available, a replacement item is selected.

**Quality differences:** Adjustments are made for changes in quality due to moving from the previous item specification to the substitute item specification

### **Treatment of seasonal items and seasonality**

**Items that have a seasonal character and their treatment:** There are seasonal products.

### **Treatment of housing**

**Treatment of owner-occupied housing:** The CPI includes imputed rents for owner occupants and is measured by the rental equivalence approach.

## **F: Computation**

**Formula used for calculation of elementary indices:** The ratio of geometric mean prices (Jevons index) (Direct form)

**Formula to aggregate elementary indices to higher level indices:** Higher level aggregate indices are computed using the Laspeyres index formula.

**Monthly and annual average prices:** The Emirate level monthly average prices are calculated as the geometric mean of the monthly prices. The national level monthly average prices are calculated as expenditure weighted arithmetic average of the monthly Emirate level average prices.

**Seasonally adjusted indices:** Seasonal adjustments are done.

## **G: Editing and validation procedures**

**Control procedures used to ensure the quality of data collected:** CPI data is checked in the field offices and further quality checks are made at MOE headquarters using appropriate

computer programs. Outliers are identified and where necessary the price collectors and/or respondents are contacted to verify the accuracy of these data.

## **H: Documentation and dissemination**

**Timeliness of dissemination of the CPI data:** CPI data is disseminated 2 to 3 weeks after the end of the reference month.

### **Level of detailed CPI published**

**Paper publication:** All items CPI, Division-level, Group-level

**Online:** All items CPI, Division-level, Group-level

### **Documentation**

**Publications and websites where indices can be found:** The monthly CPI is made available through a short news release and The *Annual Economic and Social Report* (Arabic and English). The index is also disseminated through the website <http://www.uaestatistics.gov.ae/EnglishHome/ReportsByDepartmentEnglish/tabid/104/Default.aspx?MenuId=1&NDId=88>

**Publications and websites where methodological information can be found:** A brief description of the methodology for compiling the CPI is available in Arabic upon request to the National Bureau of Statistics.

## **I: Other Information**

Reported by the ILO in 2013.