

# Zimbabwe

## A: Identification

**Title of the CPI:** National Consumer Price Index (NCPI)

**Organisation responsible:** ZIMSTAT

**Periodicity:** Monthly

**Price reference period:** December 2008 = 100

**Index reference period:** December 2008 = 100

**Weights reference period:** 2001

**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 and deflate household expenditures in national Accounts.

## B: CPI Coverage

### Geographical Coverage

*Weights:* Nation-wide

*Price collection:* Nation-wide

**Population coverage:** Resident households of nationals.

### Consumption expenditure includes:

- Foods produced for own final consumption;
- Other goods produced for own final consumption;
- Services produced for own final consumption;
- Food consumed away from home;
- Housing maintenance, minor repairs;
- Second hand goods purchased (only second hand motor cars);
- Luxury goods;
- Non-life insurance premiums (e.g. vehicle, housing, other property, medical), gross of claims;
- Licences and fees (e.g. driver's licence, hunting licence, vehicle registration);
- Gambling expenditure, gross of winnings

## C: Concepts, definitions, classifications and weights

**Definition of the CPI and its objectives:** CPI measures the price change in a fixed market basket of goods and services of constant quantity.

**Classification:** COICOP (Classification of individual consumption by purpose)

**Weights include value of consumption from own production:** Yes

**Sources of weights:** Household expenditure surveys.

**Frequency of weight updates:** Every 3-5 years

**Price updating of weight reference period to the index reference period:** Yes

**Weights for different population groups or regions:** Weights for urban and rural areas are computed.

## **D: Sample design**

**Sampling methods:**

*Localities:* Stratified sampling with simple random sampling in each stratum

*Outlets:* Stratified sampling with simple random sampling in each stratum

*Products:* Stratified sampling with simple random sampling in each stratum

**Frequency of sample updates:**

*Localities:* Every five years

*Outlets:* Every five years

*Products:* Every five years

**Criteria used for determining the optimal sample sizes and the coverage of localities, outlets, items and variety samples:** Obtained from household budget surveys

**Criteria used for selecting an item variety in the outlet in case of loose specifications provided by the central office:** The fast selling variety

## **E: Data Collection**

**Approximate number of localities, outlets and price observations:** Localities: 10 provinces, Outlets: 2,220, Price observations: 14,000

**Frequency with which prices are collected:** Monthly

**Reference period for data collection:** 15th of each month.

**Methods of Price Collection**

- Personal data collection for all items.

## Treatment of:

**Black market prices:** Not collected.

**Second hand purchases:** Included for second-hand motor cars only.

**Missing or faulty prices:** Omission

Period for allowing imputed missing prices: 3 times.

**Disappearance of a given type or quality from the market:** It is replaced with a new item.

**Appearance of new items:** If the item is in the budget and previously out of stock it can be priced.

## Treatment of seasonal items and seasonality

**Items that have a seasonal character and their treatment:** Fresh fruits and vegetables and some clothes.

**Seasonal food items:** Seasonal food items are included in the CPI using fixed weights approach: the weights are kept constant over the year, while prices of out-of season products are estimated or imputed.

**Seasonal Clothing:** Seasonal clothing items are included in the CPI using fixed weights approach: the weights are kept constant over the year, while prices of out-of season products are estimated or imputed.

**Method to impute the price of seasonal items:** The method used to impute price development in out-of season periods is carrying forward the last observed price.

## Treatment of housing

**Treatment of owner-occupied housing:** Only actual rentals are collected.

**Types of dwellings covered by the rent data:** Rent per room for low and high density urban areas.

## F: Computation

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

**Monthly and annual average prices:** Geometric means are used

**Seasonally adjusted indices:** No

**Software used for calculating the CPI:** SAS

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

**Control procedures used to ensure the quality of data collected:** Checks for completeness of questionnaires, coverage and consistency of prices are done.

**Control procedures used to ensure the quality of data processed:** Every price change is checked against the questionnaire.

## **H: Documentation and dissemination**

**Timeliness of dissemination of the CPI data:** The lapsed time between the end of the field operation and the first publication of the index is normally one month, i.e. data collection ends on the 15th of every month and the publication of the index is on the 15th of the next month.

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

**Paper publication:** Division-level (12 Divisions), Group-level app. 40 groups

**Online:** Division-level (12 Divisions), Group-level app. 40 groups

**Separate indices published for specific population groups:** No

**Type of products for which average prices are calculated and disseminated:** Bread, Maize, Meal, Rice, Flour

### **Documentation**

**Publications and websites where indices can be found:** CPI leaflet, Quarterly prices bulletin and digest of statistics.

**Publications and websites where methodological information can be found:** CPI handbook 2010.

## **I: Other Information**

Reported by the country in 2012.