



**MINISTRY OF PLANNING  
AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**CENTRAL STATISTICS  
DEPARTMENT**



# **MONTHLY CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)**

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**March 2026**



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## Methodological Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the accompanying report are prepared monthly by the Central Statistics Department (CSD) at the Ministry of Planning and National Development (MoPND). January to December 2012 is the price reference period, for which the CPI was set to 100.

The CPI is compiled from approximately 520 product prices collected in Hargeisa, mainly from the city's two biggest open-air markets. Those product prices are weighted according to the representative consumption basket, which is calculated based on consumption data from the Somaliland Household Budget Survey (2012) and auxiliary data sources to overcome data gaps.

The CPI follows the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP), elementary aggregate indices are calculated using the geometric average method (Jevons index), and higher-level indices are computed as weighted arithmetic averages of their sub-indices (Laspeyres index).

Time series for the CPI reports and its main components, annual and monthly inflation, as well as detailed information on methodology are available on the **MoPND website**: [www.mopnd.govsomaliland.org](http://www.mopnd.govsomaliland.org)

## Consumer Price Index summary for March 2026

In March 2026, the overall monthly inflation rate increased significantly to 0.9% compared to the previous month, while the annual inflation rate increased to 9.9% compared to the same month in the previous year. Table One below: - summarizes the month-over-month and year-over-year changes in the

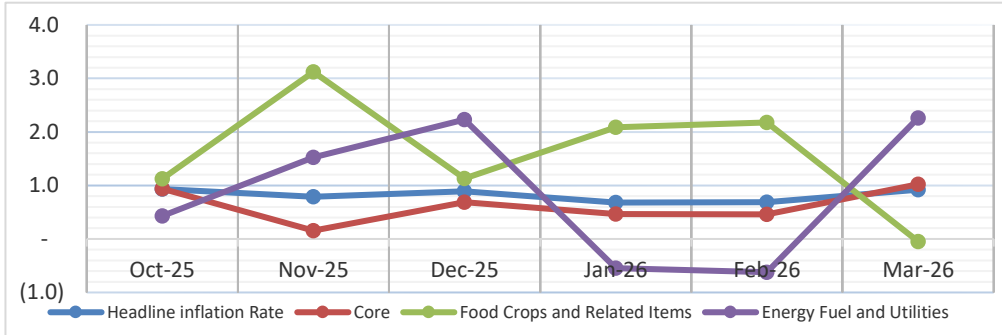
**Table 1. Monthly and annual change in overall CPI and main COICOP Divisions for March 2026**

Code	Main Divisions/classes	Weights	Mar_25	Feb_26	Mar_26	Month Percent change	Annual Percent change
	<b>HEADLINE INDEX</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>261.03</b>	<b>284.20</b>	<b>286.81</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>9.9</b>
1	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	41.75%	315.21	349.85	355.75	1.7	12.9
1.1	FOOD	38.71%	320.92	357.80	364.17	1.8	13.5
01.1.1	Bread and Cereals	10.48%	255.58	254.23	254.23	0.0	-0.5
01.1.2	Meat	6.05%	408.71	370.45	370.45	0.0	-9.4
01.1.3	Fish and sea food	0.37%	260.04	260.04	260.04	0.0	0.0
01.1.4	Milk, cheese and eggs	4.23%	293.55	292.73	292.73	0.0	-0.3
01.1.5	Oil and fats	1.54%	275.20	275.20	275.20	0.0	0.0
01.1.6	Fruits	3.26%	792.14	792.26	792.26	0.0	0.0
01.1.7	Vegetables	6.28%	437.66	437.99	437.99	0.0	0.1
01.1.8	Sugar, Jam,Honey,chocolate and confe.	2.53%	278.93	278.93	278.93	0.0	0.0
01.1.9	Food products n.e.c	3.99%	267.08	289.68	289.68	0.0	8.5
2	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	4.56%	325.85	368.38	368.38	0.0	13.1
3	Clothing and footwear	5.73%	250.63	263.27	257.07	-2.4	2.6
4	Housing water, electricity, gas and other fuels	14.10%	234.73	255.69	253.12	-1.0	7.8
5	Furnishings household equipment and routine household maintenance	5.55%	213.35	231.36	231.36	0.0	8.4
6	Health	2.56%	223.40	228.04	228.04	0.0	2.1
7	Transport	8.85%	150.48	157.67	167.45	6.2	11.3
8	Communication	2.99%	202.82	201.80	201.80	0.0	-0.5
9	Recreation and culture	2.25%	197.07	203.93	203.93	0.0	3.5
10	Education	3.69%	172.65	174.16	174.16	0.0	0.9
11	Restaurants and hotels	3.35%	248.33	261.80	261.80	0.0	5.4
12	Miscellaneous goods and services	4.62%	239.15	254.44	254.40	0.0	6.4

- **Recent trends in the CPI and its main components**

Decomposing inflation into the three components presented in Figure one allows us to see the effects on prices of the movement by typically most volatile components of the CPI, Food crops increased and Energy, Fuel and Utilities prices decreased. It also allows us to calculate “Core Inflation” by subtracting these volatile components, which more accurately reflects the economy-wide change in prices that influenced by aggregate demand and supply evolutions.

Figure 1. Monthly headline inflation rate (%) with its main components, October 2025 - March, 2026



- **Monthly inflation rates over 6 months**

Over the past six months, headline inflation has remained relatively stable, with only minor fluctuations. It stood at 0.9% in October before easing slightly to 0.8% in November. Inflation rose again to 0.9% in December, then declined to 0.7% in January 2026, largely due to government adjustments to electricity prices. The rate remained unchanged at 0.7% in February, before increasing again to 0.9% in March.

The “Food Crop & Related Items” component exhibited notable price volatility over the six-month period. It began at 1.1% in October, before rising sharply to 3.1% in November. This spike was followed by a decline to 1.1% in December. Prices increased again to 2.1% in January and edged slightly higher to 2.2% in February. However, in March, the component recorded a significant drop, falling to 0.0%.

The “Energy, Fuel and Utilities” component remained relatively low overall but showed some notable fluctuations during the period. Inflation rose from 0.4% in October to 1.5% in November, and further to 2.2% in December. However, it shifted into

deflation in January 2026, declining to -0.5%, and decreased slightly further to -0.6% in February. In March 2026, the inflation rate rebounded sharply to 2.3%.

The Core Inflation component, which excludes food and energy, exhibited relatively modest fluctuations over the period. It stood at 0.9% in October 2025 before declining sharply to 0.2% in November. Inflation then rebounded to 0.7% in December, followed by a slight decrease to 0.5% in January 2026, where it remained stable in February. In March, core inflation increased again to 1.0%, indicating a gradual pickup in underlying price pressures.

Overall, headline inflation remained stable despite volatility in key components. Food and energy prices fluctuated significantly, particularly sharp increase in Energy in March likely reflecting external pressures, including the Gulf conflict and disruptions to supply routes following the closure of the Hormuz Canal.

**Table 2. Monthly percentage change in overall CPI with main components March, 2025 - March 2026**

Component	2025												2026
	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Headline index	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.9
Core	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.2	0.7	0.5	0.5	1.0
Food crops & related items	1.0	1.9	0.9	3.2	2.2	3.5	3.7	1.1	3.1	1.1	2.1	2.2	0.0
Energy, Fuel \$ Utilities	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.9	1.7	0.0	-1.5	0.4	1.5	2.2	-0.5	-0.6	2.3

**Table 3. Annual percentage change in overall CPI with main components March 2025 - March, 2026**

Component	2025												2026
	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Headline index	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.6	9.0	9.3	9.4	9.6	9.4	9.5	9.9
Core	6.9	6.8	7.4	6.6	6.1	6.2	6.0	6.3	5.8	6.2	5.7	5.8	6.4
Food crops & related items	16.1	14.5	12.5	15.8	17.2	21.1	25.4	25.4	29.0	27.7	30.2	29.4	28.0
Energy Fuel \$ Utilities	7.0	11.7	10.6	11.6	11.7	7.4	5.6	6.0	5.5	6.5	4.2	4.9	7.3

**Example on how to calculate the relations between index changes and inflation**

<b>Monthly Inflation</b>		<b>Annual Inflation</b>	
Current month index level	<b>286.81</b>	Current month index level	<b>286.81</b>
Less index for previous month	<b>284.20</b>	Less index for same month of the previous year	<b>261.03</b>
Index point difference	2.61	Index point difference	25.78
Divided by the previous month index	<b>284.20</b>	Divided by the previous year index	<b>261.03</b>
Equals	0.0091836735	Equals	0.0987625943
Results multiplied by 100	0.0091836735x100	Results multiplied by 100	0.0987625943x100
Equals percent change	<b>0.9%</b>	Equals percent change	<b>9.9%</b>

NB: NB: Seasonal variations in agricultural output, a strong reliance on imported food items, pressure on the exchange rate, and climate-related factors such as droughts are all likely contributing to the volatility of food and energy prices.

The sharp increase in energy as well as some food items including maize flour, wheat flour, milk powder and oils in March 2026 are likely due to an external pressure, including the Gulf conflict and disruptions to supply routes. Livestock and meat products also displayed an increase and there is a sharp increase in exchange rate in as well. On the other hand, prices of gold and some vegetable items decreased in March 2026.

## How to interpret inflation and CPI statistics?

Movements of the indices from one month to another usually are expressed as percentage changes rather than changes in index points. For instance, one index going from 50 in one month to 55 the next month represents a 10% increase in that index, which will be typically reported as a 10% rate of monthly inflation

## Glossary

- Index reference period (Jan-Dec 2012=100): The period with which all other periods are compared (the period for which the value of the CPI is set at 100).
- Percentage change: The change in an index or other statistical series from one period to another expressed as a percentage of its value in the first of the two periods.
- Annual inflation: Percentage change between the current index number for a particular month and the index number for the same month of the previous year.
- Monthly inflation: Percentage change between the current index number for a particular month and the index number for the previous month.
- COICOP: The Classification of individual consumption by purpose, abbreviated as COICOP, is a classification developed by the United Nations Statistics Division to classify and analyses individual consumption expenditures incurred by households, non-profit institutions serving households and general government according to their purpose

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