



Kingdom of Lesotho



**Statistical Report  
No.4:2018**

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
JANUARY 2018**



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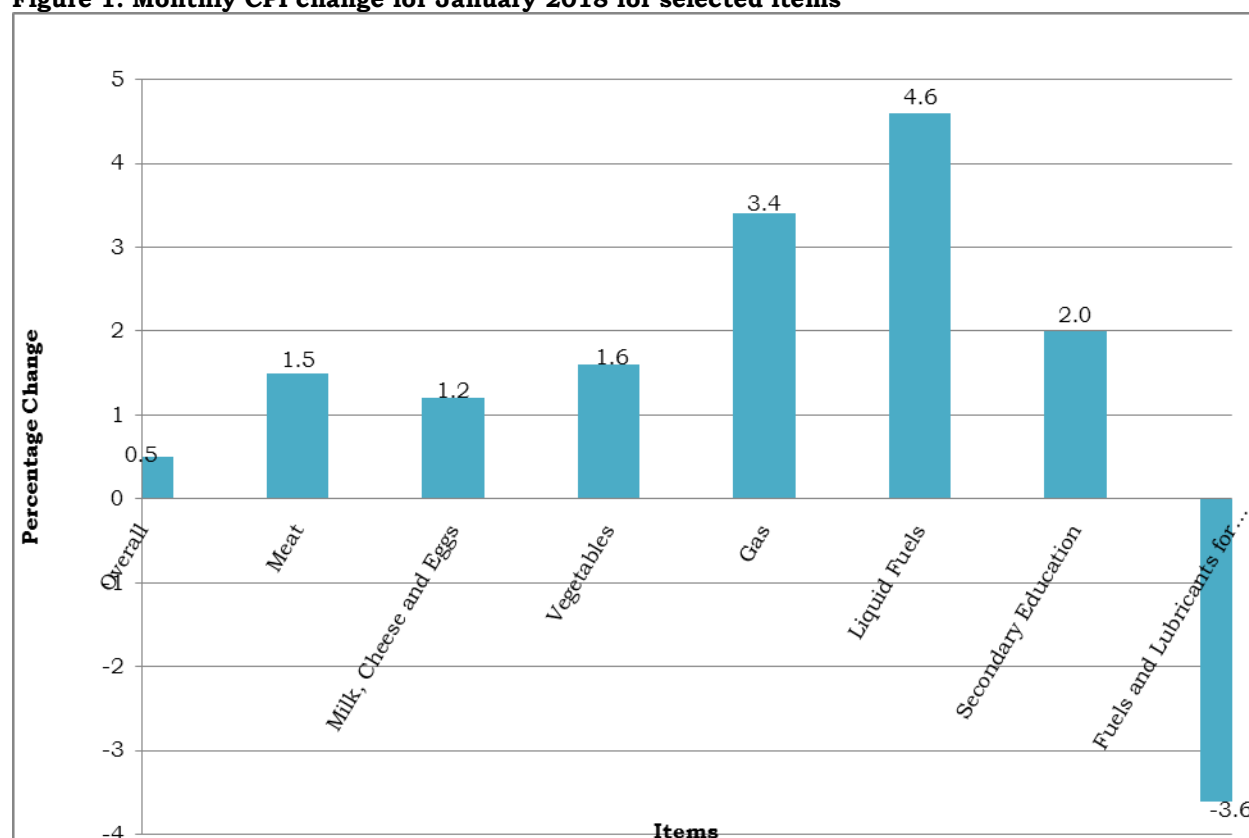
## 1. Introduction

This report presents the Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for January 2018 for Lesotho. The CPI is an indicator that shows changes in the cost of buying a fixed bundle of consumer goods and services as determined for the base period. In this report, CPI is calculated on monthly basis; thus, CPI is calculated comparing the prices of the current month with the prices of the previous month. Prices are collected every month in twelve urban areas and about seventy selected rural areas of Lesotho by personal visits to the outlets. About 40000 price quotations are collected in about 800 outlets for about 350 commodity items.

## 2. Monthly Consumer Price Index

This section covers the monthly price change for Lesotho. As depicted by Figure 1, the overall monthly CPI change for January 2018 is 0.5 percent which shows 0.2 percentage increase from the index level observed in December 2017. The overall CPI measures a change in the index level for all items in January 2018 compared to the index level for all items in December 2017. The observed increase in monthly price indices was recorded for the following classes with their respective percentages: Meat (1.5 percent), Milk, Cheese and Eggs (1.2 percent), Vegetables (1.6 percent), Gas (3.4 percent), Liquid Fuels (4.6 percent) as well as Secondary Education (2.0 percent). However, the increases in monthly price indices were counteracted by a decline of 3.6 percent for Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment.

**Figure 1: Monthly CPI change for January 2018 for selected items**



The large monthly increases in the classes mentioned above were observed in the price indices of the following specific commodity items: Beef, Pork, Eggs, Cheese curd, Lettuce, Green pepper, Gas, Paraffin, Other fuels, Secondary Education, Engine oil as well as Brake fluid.

### **3. Annual Inflation Rate**

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 annual inflation rate in this report is computed by comparing the CPI level of January 2018 to that of January 2017. The annual inflation rate is estimated at 5.3 percent (see Table 1) which shows 0.4 percentage point decrease from the rate observed in December 2017.

The divisions, which showed a significant annual increase in the inflation rate were: Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (7.2 percent), Clothing and footwear (1.8 percent) Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas (8.3 percent), Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (5.5 percent), Recreation and culture (5.8 percent) and Miscellaneous goods and services (4.3 percent) (See Table 1).

The following groups had a contribution to the annual increase: Food with 7.3 Percent, Alcohol with 6.8 percent, Clothing with 1.7 percent, Electricity, Gas and other fuels with 12.5 percent, Household textiles with 18.8 percent and Personal care with 6.8 percent (See Table 2).

### **4. Services and Commodities Indices**

Services and commodities (disaggregated into Non-durables, semi durables and durables) indices are presented in this section. The services index is derived by aggregating all the services indices. Non-durables, semi durables and durable indices are calculated by aggregating all the Non-durables, semi durables and durables indices respectively.

The monthly increase was observed with the following percentages: Non-Durables 0.5, Services 0.3, Durables and Semi- Durables 0.1. The annual inflation rates were 6.7, 5.2, 2.9, and 2.0 percent for Non-Durables, Durables, Semi-Durables and Services, respectively (see Table 1).

## Annex 1: Tables

**Table 1: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Divisions – January 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Jan17	Dec 17	Jan 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	1000	100.81	105.67	106.19	0.5	5.3
01. Food &Non-alcoholic beverages	361.13	100.46	107.16	107.72	0.5	7.2
02. Alcohol and Tobacco	33.31	100.35	106.93	107.02	0.1	6.6
03. Clothing &Footwear	130.57	100.04	101.64	101.88	0.2	1.8
04. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	123.97	102.30	108.84	110.82	1.8	8.3
05. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	84.77	100.15	105.63	105.68	0.1	5.5
06 Health	15.04	100.00	100.19	100.18	0.0	0.2
07. Transport	48.21	101.81	102.24	101.55	-0.7	-0.3
08 Communications	21.05	100.02	100.01	98.46	-1.5	-1.6
09. Recreation and culture	57.08	100.23	106.08	106.09	0.0	5.8
10. Education	42.00	105.11	106.85	108.55	1.6	3.3
11. Restaurants and Hotels	10.30	100.13	101.67	102.01	0.3	1.9
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	72.59	100.21	104.20	104.48	0.3	4.3
<b>Services</b>	200.05	101.14	102.83	103.16	0.3	2.0
<b>Non-durables</b>	549.99	95.30	101.19	101.69	0.5	6.7
<b>Semi durables</b>	168.56	99.69	102.54	102.61	0.1	2.9
<b>Durables</b>	81.40	100.20	105.36	105.43	0.1	5.2

**Table 2: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups – January 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Jan17	Dec 17	Jan18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	1000.00	100.81	105.67	106.19	0.5	5.3
01.1Food	348.52	100.45	107.20	107.76	0.5	7.3
01.2Non alcoholic beverages	12.61	100.51	106.13	106.52	0.4	6.0
02.1Alcohol	28.28	100.34	107.13	107.21	0.1	6.8
02.2Tobacco	5.03	100.41	105.80	105.97	0.2	5.5
03.1Clothing	90.26	100.00	101.36	101.66	0.3	1.7
03.2Footwear	40.31	100.15	102.25	102.37	0.1	2.2
04.1Actual rentals for housing	2.49	100.24	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.3
04.2Imputed rent for housing	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3Maintanance and repair of dwelling	8.03	99.93	101.16	101.20	0.0	1.3
04.4Water and miscellaneous services relating to dwelling	4.38	100.01	105.00	105.00	0.0	5.0
04.5Electricity, Gas and other fuels	79.33	103.59	113.40	116.50	2.7	12.5
05.1Furniture and furnishings	18.87	100.16	104.78	105.04	0.2	4.9
05.2Household textiles	11.95	100.02	120.14	118.80	-1.1	18.8
05.3Houseould appliances	4.56	100.58	102.83	103.30	0.5	2.7
05.4Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	99.94	100.64	100.68	0.0	0.7
05.5Tools and equipment for house and garden	7.08	100.04	99.99	100.00	0.0	0.0
05.6Goods and services for routine household maintenance	36.93	100.18	103.52	103.88	0.4	3.7
06.1Medical products, appliances and equipment	7.68	100.00	100.14	100.05	-0.1	0.1
06.2Out-patient services	1.89	100.00	100.97	101.21	0.2	1.2
06.3Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1Purchase of vehicles	8.73	100.00	101.41	101.41	0.0	1.4
7.2Operation of personal transport	23.87	103.66	104.02	102.60	-1.4	-1.0
7.3Transport services	15.60	100.00	99.99	100.03	0.0	0.0
8.1Postal services	0.13	103.29	101.56	102.41	0.8	-0.8
8.2Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	100.00	98.29	-1.7	-1.7
9.1Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	42.39	100.25	107.60	107.58	0.0	7.3
9.3Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	0.47	100.00	108.73	108.73	0.0	8.7
9.4Recreational and cultural services	3.22	100.00	100.74	100.74	0.0	0.7
9.5 Newspapers, books and stationery	10.74	100.24	101.73	101.86	0.1	1.6
09.6Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	106.23	112.59	114.77	1.9	8.0
10.2Secondary education	20.19	108.12	109.66	111.83	2.0	3.4
10.3Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	101.60	103.76	2.1	2.1
10.5Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1Catering services	7.32	100.18	102.04	102.52	0.5	2.3
11.2Accommodation services	2.98	100.00	100.75	100.76	0.0	0.8
12.1Personal care	38.90	100.13	106.42	106.95	0.5	6.8
12.3Personal effects	7.10	100.00	101.58	101.55	0.0	1.6
12.4Social Protection	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5Insurance	6.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6Financial services n.e.c	6.09	100.00	105.49	105.49	0.0	5.5
12.7Other services	13.23	100.77	100.77	100.77	0.0	0.0

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – January 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers		% change		
		Jan 17	Dec 17	Jan18	M%	Y%
Overall CPI	1000.00	100.81	105.67	106.19	0.5	5.3
01.1.1Bread and cereals	138.36	100.17	101.48	101.31	-0.2	1.1
01.1.2Meat	49.04	100.47	116.64	118.37	1.5	17.8
01.1.3Fish	6.73	100.72	105.40	106.94	1.5	6.2
01.1.4Milk, cheese and eggs	22.05	100.65	107.97	109.24	1.2	8.5
01.1.5Oils and fats	43.96	100.03	106.66	106.63	0.0	6.6
01.1.6Fruit	2.02	100.27	107.24	108.28	1.0	8.0
01.1.7Vegetables	46.40	101.55	114.56	116.40	1.6	14.6
01.1.8Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	22.15	100.28	108.70	108.79	0.1	8.5
01.1.9Food products n.e.c.	17.82	100.70	105.66	106.07	0.4	5.3
01.2.1Coffee, tea and cocoa	6.41	100.67	108.62	109.10	0.4	8.4
01.2.2Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	6.21	100.35	103.57	103.87	0.3	3.5
02.1.1Spirits	0.67	100.48	103.94	104.37	0.4	3.9
02.1.2Wine	2.18	100.36	101.70	101.81	0.1	1.4
02.1.3Beer	25.42	100.34	107.68	107.74	0.1	7.4
02.2.1Tobacco	5.03	100.41	105.80	105.97	0.2	5.5
03.1.1Clothing materials	0.78	100.00	101.69	102.79	1.1	2.8
03.1.2Garments	80.75	99.99	101.34	101.59	0.2	1.6
03.1.3Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	8.66	100.02	101.54	102.16	0.6	2.1
03.1.4Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.06	100.00	104.14	104.14	0.0	4.1
03.2.1Shoes and other footwear	40.07	100.15	102.26	102.37	0.1	2.2
03.2.2Repair and hire of footwear	0.24	100.00	101.71	101.71	0.0	1.7
04.1.1Actual rentals paid by tenants	2.49	100.24	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.3
04.2.1Imputed rentals of owner-occupiers	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3.1Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	4.82	99.89	101.93	101.99	0.1	2.1
04.3.2Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.1Water supply	3.27	100.00	106.70	106.70	0.0	6.7
04.4.2Refuse collection	0.08	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.3Sewerage services	0.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.4Other services relating to the dwelling	0.83	100.04	100.04	100.04	0.0	0.0
04.5.1Electricity	15.26	100.00	106.99	106.99	0.0	7.0
04.5.2Gas	22.50	100.14	109.90	113.63	3.4	13.5
04.5.3Liquid fuels	28.55	109.85	123.09	128.72	4.6	17.2
04.5.4Solid fuels	28.55	109.85	123.09	128.72	4.6	17.2
05.1.1Furniture and furnishings	18.46	100.15	104.88	105.13	0.2	5.0
05.1.2Carpets and other floor coverings	0.38	100.89	100.32	100.81	0.5	-0.1
05.1.3Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.04	100.00	100.00	102.46	2.5	2.5
05.2.1Household textiles	11.95	100.02	120.14	118.80	-1.1	18.8
05.3.1Major household appliances whether electric or not	3.94	100.66	103.21	103.74	0.5	3.1

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – January 2018 (cont.)**

	Weight	Index numbers		Jan 18	M%	% change
		Jan 17	Dec 18			Y%
05.3.2Small electric household appliances	0.61	100.07	100.39	100.48	0.1	0.4
05.3.3Repair of household appliances	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
05.4.1Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	99.94	100.64	100.68	0.0	0.7
05.5.1Major tools and equipment	5.58	100.00	99.84	99.84	0.0	-0.2
05.5.2Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1.50	100.18	100.55	100.62	0.1	0.4
05.6.1Non-durable household goods	34.07	100.19	103.81	104.21	0.4	4.0
05.6.2Domestic services and home care services	2.86	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.1.1Pharmaceutical products	4.80	100.00	100.20	100.07	-0.1	0.1
06.1.2Other medical products	0.61	100.00	100.45	100.40	-0.1	0.4
06.1.3Therapeutic appliances and equipment	2.26	100.00	99.92	99.92	0.0	-0.1
06.2.1Medical Services	1.09	100.00	101.69	102.09	0.4	2.1
06.2.2Dental services	0.13	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.2.3Paramedical services	0.67	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.3.1Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.1Motor cars	7.89	100.00	101.49	101.49	0.0	1.5
07.1.3Bicycles	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.4Animal drawn vehicles	0.78	100.00	100.70	100.70	0.0	0.7
07.2.1Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	8.40	101.47	102.82	102.49	-0.3	1.0
07.2.2Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	9.39	107.98	106.44	102.61	-3.6	-5.0
07.2.3Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	3.37	100.00	102.82	104.55	1.7	4.5
07.2.4Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	2.71	100.00	100.88	100.49	-0.4	0.5
07.3.2Passenger transport by road	13.12	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.3Passenger transport by air	0.24	100.00	99.13	102.21	3.1	2.2
07.3.4Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.6Other Transport services	2.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.1.1Postal services	0.13	103.29	101.56	102.41	0.8	-0.8
8.2.1Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3.1Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	100.00	98.29	-1.7	-1.7
9.1.1Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	35.84	100.29	109.18	109.15	0.0	8.8
9.1.2Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	5.91	100.00	98.45	98.45	0.0	-1.5
9.1.3Information processing equipment	0.33	100.00	107.18	107.18	0.0	7.2
9.1.5Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.3.1Games, toys and hobbies	0.29	100.00	113.53	113.53	0.0	13.5
09.3.2Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.3.3Gardens, plants and flowers	0.05	100.00	101.16	101.16	0.0	1.2
09.3.4Pets and related products	0.03	100.00	103.92	103.92	0.0	3.9
09.3.5Veterinary and other services for pets	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.1Recreational and sport services	0.14	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.2Cultural services	3.06	100.00	100.67	100.67	0.0	0.7
09.4.3Games of chance	0.02	100.00	115.38	115.38	0.0	15.4
09.5.1Books	3.37	100.00	100.54	100.56	0.0	0.6
09.5.2Newspapers and periodicals	0.61	100.92	102.29	102.29	0.0	1.3
09.5.3Miscellaneous printed matter	0.11	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.5.4Stationery and drawing materials	6.66	100.30	102.31	102.50	0.2	2.2
09.6.1Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0



**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – January 2018 (cont.)**

	Weight	Index numbers		Jan 18	% change	
		Jan 17	Dec 17		M%	Y%
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	106.23	112.59	114.77	1.9	8.0
10.2.1Secondary education	20.19	108.12	109.66	111.83	2.0	3.4
10.3.1Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4.1Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	101.60	103.76	2.1	2.1
10.5.1Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1.1Restaurants, caf��s and the like	7.27	100.18	102.06	102.54	0.5	2.3
11.1.2Canteens	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.2.1Accommodation services	2.98	100.00	100.75	100.76	0.0	0.8
12.1.1Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	29.16	100.00	106.84	107.42	0.5	7.4
12.1.2Electrical appliances for personal care	0.19	100.00	99.10	99.72	0.6	-0.3
12.1.3Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	9.55	100.54	105.29	105.68	0.4	5.1
12.3.1Jewellery, clocks and watches	0.30	100.00	100.11	100.11	0.0	0.1
12.3.2Other personal effects	6.80	100.00	101.65	101.62	0.0	1.6
12.4.1Social Protection services	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.2Insurance connected with dwelling	0.91	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.3Insurance connected with health	2.37	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.4Insurance connected with transport	3.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6.2Financial services n.e.c	6.09	100.00	105.49	105.49	0.0	5.5
12.7.1Other services n.e.c	13.23	100.77	100.77	100.77	0.0	0.0
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	106.23	112.59	114.77	1.9	8.0

## **Annex 2: Explanations and Technical Notes**

The CPI has been rebased and the new reference period is December 2016. The linking factor was estimated and the indices from December 2016 and the months preceding December were multiplied by this factor. The resulting indices were then multiplied by 100/ December Index.

The formula used in calculating the price indices is Modified Laspeyres index formula with elementary price indices being calculated using geometric mean. The officially accepted method of measuring inflation rate in Lesotho is the index for the current month compared with that of the corresponding month in the previous year.

$$\{(I_c/I_p)-1\} \times 100 = \text{Inflation rate}$$

Where:         $I_c$  = index for the current month,  
                   $I_p$  = index for the same month in the previous year.

Bureau of Statistics (BOS) recommends this method over others for estimating the annual inflation rate. This method tends to eliminate any possible seasonal effects, since the indices for the corresponding months are compared. However, it should be borne in mind that inflation rate calculated according to this method fluctuates considerably.

Goods and services are classified according to Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose -International Comparison Programme (COICOP-ICP).

The weights are calculated on the basis of the 2010/11 Household Budget Survey (HBS). The CPI results are published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month of data collection. Additional and more detailed information is also available from the BOS website: [www.bos.gov.ls](http://www.bos.gov.ls), Email address: [economics@bos.gov.ls](mailto:economics@bos.gov.ls) and or at BOS Library.

### Annex 3: Areas where monthly price data are collected

DISTRICT	AREA: URBAN	AREA: RURAL
1. Butha-Buthe	Butha-Buthe	Malelefiloane Tsime Qholaqhoe Ha Molapo Manamela Qalo Muela Khukhune Ha Selomo Seboche
2. Leribe	Hlotse Maputsoe	Ha Lejone Pitseng Peka Kolonyama
3. Berea	Teya-Teyaneng	Mamathe Mapoteng Makhoroana Sefikeng Khotsi's Ha Rakoto Ha Koali
4. Maseru	Maseru Semonkong	Roma Nazareth Moriya Matsieng Mants'ebo Ramabanta
5. Mafeteng	Mafeteng	Van Rooyen's Ts'akhlo Kolo Ts'ita's Nek Ramatseliso Motsekuoa Ha Makhakhe Matelile ha Seeiso Mount Tabor Thabana Morena Ha Khobotle Thaba Ts'oeu
6. Mohale's Hoek	Mohale's hoek	Phamong Holy Cross Masemousu

		Mpharane
7. Quthing	Moyeni	A' skop Mount Moorosi Mphaki
8. Qhacha's Nek	Qhacha's Nek	Sehlabathebe Ha Ramatseliso Ha Sekake White hill Ha Mpiti
9. Mokhotlong	Mokhotlong	Tlokoeng Mapholaneng Janteu Linakaneng Tlhanyaku phahameng
10.Thaba-Tseka	Thaba-Tseka	Mantsonyane Sehonghong Mashai katse



Kingdom of Lesotho



**Statistical Report  
No.10:2018**

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
FEBRUARY 2018**



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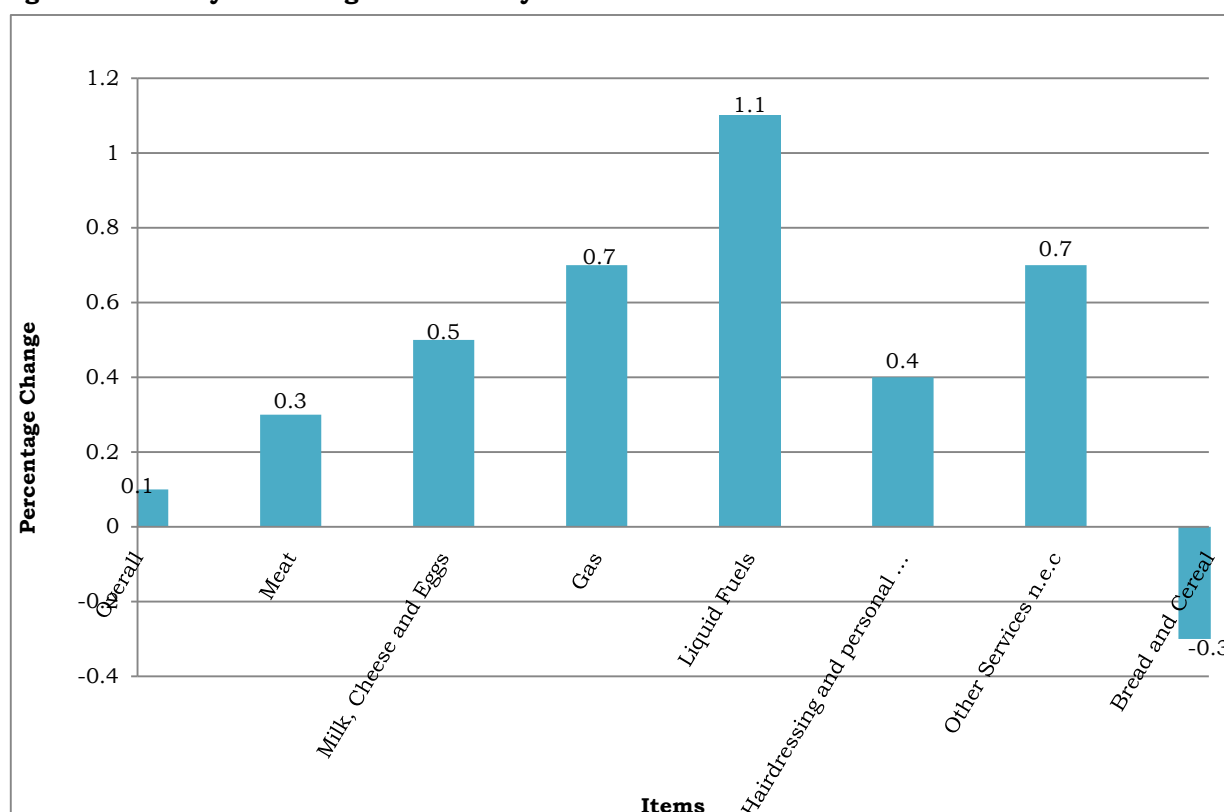
## 1. Introduction

This report presents the Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for February 2018 for Lesotho. The CPI is an indicator that shows changes in the cost of buying a fixed bundle of consumer goods and services as determined for the base period. In this report, CPI is calculated on monthly basis; thus, CPI is calculated comparing the prices of the current month with the prices of the previous month. Prices are collected every month in twelve urban areas and about seventy selected rural areas of Lesotho by personal visits to the outlets. About 40000 price quotations are collected in about 800 outlets for about 350 commodity items.

## 2. Monthly Consumer Price Index

This section covers the monthly price change for Lesotho. As depicted by Figure 1, the overall monthly CPI change for February 2018 is 0.1 percent which shows 0.4 percentage decrease from the index level observed in January 2018. The overall CPI measures a change in the index level for all items in February 2018 compared to the index level for all items in January 2018. The observed increase in monthly price indices was recorded for the following classes with their respective percentages: Meat (0.3 percent), Milk, Cheese and Eggs (0.5 percent), Gas (0.7 percent), Liquid Fuels (1.1 percent), Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments (0.4 percent) as well as Other services n.e.c (0.7). However, the increases in monthly price indices were counteracted by a decline of 0.3 percent for Bread and Cereal.

**Figure 1: Monthly CPI change for February 2018 for selected items**



The large monthly increases in the classes mentioned above were observed in the price indices of the following specific commodity items: Pizza, Soft Porridge, Pork, Mince meat, Eggs, Yought, Gas, Paraffin, Braiding without Artificial, Relaxer, as well as Funeral Services.

### **3. Annual Inflation Rate**

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 annual inflation rate in this report is computed by comparing the CPI level of February 2018 to that of February 2017. The annual inflation rate is estimated at 5.2 percent (see Table 1) which shows 0.1 percentage point decrease from the rate observed in January 2018.

The divisions, which showed a significant annual increase in the inflation rate were: Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (7.0 percent), Clothing and footwear (1.7 percent) Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas ( 7.9 percent), Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (5.5 percent), Recreation and culture (5.8 percent) and Miscellaneous goods and services (4.6. percent) (See Table 1).

The following groups had a contribution to the annual increase: Food with 7.0 Percent, Alcohol with 5.5 percent, Clothing with 1.7 percent, Electricity, Gas and other fuels with 11.8 percent, Household textiles with 19.0 percent and Personal care with 7.2 percent (See Table 2).

### **4. Services and Commodities Indices**

Services and commodities (disaggregated into Non-durables, semi durables and durables) indices are presented in this section. The services index is derived by aggregating all the services indices. Non-durables, semi durables and durable indices are calculated by aggregating all the Non-durables, semi durables and durables indices respectively.

The monthly increase was observed with the following percentages Services 0.2, Non-Durables 0.1, whereas Semi- Durables and Durables shows no change. The annual inflation rates were 6.4, 5.2, 2.8 and 2.2 percent for Non-Durables, Durables, Semi-Durables and Services, respectively (see Table 1).



## Annex 1: Tables

**Table 1: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Divisions – February 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Feb18	Jan 18	Feb18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	1000	101.09	106.18	106.31	0.1	5.2
01. Food & Non-alcoholic beverages	361.13	100.71	107.72	107.71	0.0	7.0
02. Alcohol and Tobacco	33.31	101.81	107.02	107.33	0.3	5.4
03. Clothing & Footwear	130.57	100.20	101.88	101.89	0.0	1.7
04. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	123.97	103.12	110.82	111.31	0.4	7.9
05. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	84.77	100.31	105.68	105.83	0.1	5.5
06 Health	15.04	99.82	100.18	100.13	0.0	0.3
07. Transport	48.21	101.86	101.55	101.54	0.0	-0.3
08 Communications	21.05	100.02	98.46	98.46	0.0	-1.6
09. Recreation and culture	57.08	100.28	106.09	106.10	0.0	5.8
10. Education	42.00	105.11	108.30	108.79	0.4	3.5
11. Restaurants and Hotels	10.30	100.14	102.01	102.28	0.3	2.1
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	72.59	100.24	104.48	104.87	0.4	4.6
<b>Services</b>	200.05	101.14	103.11	103.33	0.2	2.2
<b>Non-durables</b>	549.99	95.66	101.69	101.75	0.1	6.4
<b>Semi durables</b>	168.56	99.81	102.61	102.65	0.0	2.8
<b>Durables</b>	81.40	100.29	105.43	105.48	0.0	5.2

**Table 2: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups –February 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Feb18	Jan 18	Feb18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	1000.00	101.09	106.18	106.31	0.1	5.2
01.1Food	348.52	100.70	107.76	107.72	0.0	7.0
01.2Non alcoholic beverages	12.61	100.92	106.52	107.33	0.8	6.3
02.1Alcohol	28.28	101.99	107.21	107.59	0.4	5.5
02.2Tobacco	5.03	100.82	105.97	105.90	-0.1	5.0
03.1Clothing	90.26	100.10	101.66	101.76	0.1	1.7
03.2Footwear	40.31	100.44	102.37	102.17	-0.2	1.7
04.1Actual rentals for housing	2.49	100.24	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.3
04.2Imputed rent for housing	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3Maintanance and repair of dwelling	8.03	100.39	101.20	101.57	0.4	1.2
04.4Water and miscellaneous services relating to dwelling	4.38	100.01	105.00	105.00	0.0	5.0
04.5Electricity, Gas and other fuels	79.33	104.83	116.50	117.22	0.6	11.8
05.1Furniture and furnishings	18.87	100.54	105.04	105.05	0.0	4.5
05.2Household textiles	11.95	100.05	118.80	119.03	0.2	19.0
05.3Houseould appliances	4.56	100.63	103.30	103.82	0.5	3.2
05.4Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	99.99	100.68	100.68	0.0	0.7
05.5Tools and equipment for house and garden	7.08	100.06	100.00	100.00	0.0	-0.1
05.6Goods and services for routine household maintenance	36.93	100.33	103.88	104.07	0.2	3.7
06.1Medical products, appliances and equipment	7.68	99.65	100.05	99.97	-0.1	0.3
06.2Out-patient services	1.89	100.00	101.21	101.21	0.0	1.2
06.3Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1Purchase of vehicles	8.73	100.00	101.41	101.58	0.2	1.6
7.2Operation of personal transport	23.87	103.76	102.60	102.51	-0.1	-1.2
7.3Transport services	15.60	100.00	100.03	100.03	0.0	0.0
8.1Postal services	0.13	103.29	102.41	102.41	0.0	-0.8
8.2Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	98.29	98.29	0.0	-1.7
9.1Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	42.39	100.25	107.58	107.56	0.0	7.3
9.3Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	0.47	100.00	108.73	108.93	0.2	8.9
9.4Recreational and cultural services	3.22	100.00	100.74	100.74	0.0	0.7
9.5 Newspapers, books and stationery	10.74	100.52	101.86	101.98	0.1	1.4
09.6Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	106.23	114.77	115.94	1.0	9.1
10.2Secondary education	20.19	108.12	111.83	112.03	0.2	3.6
10.3Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	103.48	1.4	1.9
10.5Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1Catering services	7.32	100.20	102.52	102.83	0.3	2.6
11.2Accommodation services	2.98	100.00	100.76	100.91	0.1	0.9
12.1Personal care	38.90	100.18	106.95	107.36	0.4	7.2
12.3Personal effects	7.10	100.00	101.55	102.00	0.4	2.0
12.4Social Protection	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5Insurance	6.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6Financial services n.e.c	6.09	100.00	105.49	105.49	0.0	5.5
12.7Other services	13.23	100.77	100.77	101.47	0.7	0.7

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – February 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers		Feb18	% change	
		Feb18	Jan 18		M%	Y%
Overall CPI	1000.00	101.09	106.18	106.31	0.1	5.2
01.1.1Bread and cereals	138.36	100.28	101.31	101.05	-0.3	0.8
01.1.2Meat	49.04	100.75	118.37	118.74	0.3	17.9
01.1.3Fish	6.73	101.09	106.94	106.96	0.0	5.8
01.1.4Milk, cheese and eggs	22.05	100.97	109.24	109.77	0.5	8.7
01.1.5Oils and fats	43.96	100.15	106.63	106.64	0.0	6.5
01.1.6Fruit	2.02	100.91	108.28	109.17	0.8	8.2
01.1.7Vegetables	46.40	102.18	116.40	115.97	-0.4	13.5
01.1.8Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	22.15	100.52	108.79	108.83	0.0	8.3
01.1.9Food products n.e.c.	17.82	101.02	106.07	106.55	0.5	5.5
01.2.1Coffee, tea and cocoa	6.41	101.19	109.10	110.04	0.9	8.7
01.2.2Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	6.21	100.64	103.87	104.53	0.6	3.9
02.1.1Spirits	0.67	100.90	104.37	104.54	0.2	3.6
02.1.2Wine	2.18	100.77	101.81	102.48	0.7	1.7
02.1.3Beer	25.42	102.12	107.74	108.11	0.3	5.9
02.2.1Tobacco	5.03	100.82	105.97	105.90	-0.1	5.0
03.1.1Clothing materials	0.78	100.00	102.79	102.79	0.0	2.8
03.1.2Garments	80.75	100.11	101.59	101.70	0.1	1.6
03.1.3Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	8.66	99.95	102.16	102.25	0.1	2.3
03.1.4Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.06	100.00	104.14	104.14	0.0	4.1
03.2.1Shoes and other footwear	40.07	100.44	102.37	102.16	-0.2	1.7
03.2.2Repair and hire of footwear	0.24	100.00	101.71	102.61	0.9	2.6
04.1.1Actual rentals paid by tenants	2.49	100.24	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.3
04.2.1Imputed rentals of owner-occupiers	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3.1Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	4.82	100.65	101.99	102.62	0.6	2.0
04.3.2Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.1Water supply	3.27	100.00	106.70	106.70	0.0	6.7
04.4.2Refuse collection	0.08	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.3Sewerage services	0.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.4Other services relating to the dwelling	0.83	100.04	100.04	100.04	0.0	0.0
04.5.1Electricity	15.26	100.00	106.99	106.99	0.0	7.0
04.5.2Gas	22.50	102.09	113.63	114.39	0.7	12.0
04.5.3Liquid fuels	28.55	111.73	128.72	130.12	1.1	16.5
04.5.4Solid fuels	28.55	111.73	128.72	130.12	1.1	16.5
05.1.1Furniture and furnishings	18.46	100.53	105.13	105.14	0.0	4.6
05.1.2Carpets and other floor coverings	0.38	100.89	100.81	101.00	0.2	0.1
05.1.3Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.04	100.00	102.46	102.46	0.0	2.5
05.2.1Household textiles	11.95	100.05	118.80	119.03	0.2	19.0
05.3.1Major household appliances whether electric or not	3.94	100.71	103.74	104.37	0.6	3.6

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – February 2018 (cont.)**

	Weight	Feb18	Jan 18	Index numbers	M%	% change
				Feb18		Y%
05.3.2Small electric household appliances	0.61	100.07	100.48	100.38	-0.1	0.3
05.3.3Repair of household appliances	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
05.4.1Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	99.99	100.68	100.68	0.0	0.7
05.5.1Major tools and equipment	5.58	100.00	99.84	99.84	0.0	-0.2
05.5.2Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1.50	100.29	100.62	100.62	0.0	0.3
05.6.1Non-durable household goods	34.07	100.36	104.21	104.41	0.2	4.0
05.6.2Domestic services and home care services	2.86	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.1.1Pharmaceutical products	4.80	99.44	100.07	99.89	-0.2	0.5
06.1.2Other medical products	0.61	100.00	100.40	100.70	0.3	0.7
06.1.3Therapeutic appliances and equipment	2.26	100.00	99.92	99.92	0.0	-0.1
06.2.1Medical Services	1.09	100.00	102.09	102.09	0.0	2.1
06.2.2Dental services	0.13	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.2.3Paramedical services	0.67	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.3.1Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.1Motor cars	7.89	100.00	101.49	101.68	0.2	1.7
07.1.3Bicycles	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.4Animal drawn vehicles	0.78	100.00	100.70	100.70	0.0	0.7
07.2.1Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	8.40	101.49	102.49	102.47	0.0	1.0
07.2.2Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	9.39	108.21	102.61	102.40	-0.2	-5.4
07.2.3Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	3.37	100.00	104.55	104.55	0.0	4.5
07.2.4Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	2.71	100.00	100.49	100.49	0.0	0.5
07.3.2Passenger transport by road	13.12	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.3Passenger transport by air	0.24	100.00	102.21	102.21	0.0	2.2
07.3.4Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.6Other Transport services	2.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.1.1Postal services	0.13	103.29	102.41	102.41	0.0	-0.8
8.2.1Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3.1Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	98.29	98.29	0.0	-1.7
9.1.1Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	35.84	100.29	109.15	109.13	0.0	8.8
9.1.2Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	5.91	100.00	98.45	98.45	0.0	-1.5
9.1.3Information processing equipment	0.33	100.00	107.18	107.18	0.0	7.2
9.1.5Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.3.1Games, toys and hobbies	0.29	100.00	113.53	113.65	0.1	13.7
09.3.2Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.3.3Gardens, plants and flowers	0.05	100.00	101.16	102.44	1.3	2.4
09.3.4Pets and related products	0.03	100.00	103.92	103.82	-0.1	3.8
09.3.5Veterinary and other services for pets	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.1Recreational and sport services	0.14	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.2Cultural services	3.06	100.00	100.67	100.67	0.0	0.7
09.4.3Games of chance	0.02	100.00	115.38	115.38	0.0	15.4
09.5.1Books	3.37	100.00	100.56	100.35	-0.2	0.4
09.5.2Newspapers and periodicals	0.61	101.11	102.29	102.29	0.0	1.2
09.5.3Miscellaneous printed matter	0.11	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.5.4Stationery and drawing materials	6.66	100.74	102.50	102.80	0.3	2.0
09.6.1Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – February 2018 (cont.)**

	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Feb18</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Index numbers Feb18</b>	<b>% change M%</b>	<b>% change Y%</b>
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	106.23	114.77	115.94	1.0	9.1
10.2.1Secondary education	20.19	108.12	111.83	112.03	0.2	3.6
10.3.1Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4.1Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	103.48	1.4	1.9
10.5.1Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1.1Restaurants, caf��s and the like	7.27	100.20	102.54	102.85	0.3	2.6
11.1.2Canteens	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.2.1Accommodation services	2.98	100.00	100.76	100.91	0.1	0.9
12.1.1Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	29.16	100.00	107.42	107.87	0.4	7.9
12.1.2Electrical appliances for personal care	0.19	100.00	99.72	99.72	0.0	-0.3
12.1.3Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	9.55	100.74	105.68	105.95	0.3	5.2
12.3.1Jewellery, clocks and watches	0.30	100.00	100.11	100.11	0.0	0.1
12.3.2Other personal effects	6.80	100.00	101.62	102.08	0.5	2.1
12.4.1Social Protection services	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.2Insurance connected with dwelling	0.91	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.3Insurance connected with health	2.37	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.4Insurance connected with transport	3.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6.2Financial services n.e.c	6.09	100.00	105.49	105.49	0.0	5.5
12.7.1Other services n.e.c	13.23	100.77	100.77	101.47	0.7	0.7
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	106.23	114.77	115.94	1.0	9.1

## **Annex 2: Explanations and Technical Notes**

The CPI has been rebased and the new reference period is December 2016. The linking factor was estimated and the indices from December 2016 and the months preceding December were multiplied by this factor. The resulting indices were then multiplied by 100/ December Index.

The formula used in calculating the price indices is Modified Laspeyres index formula with elementary price indices being calculated using geometric mean. The officially accepted method of measuring inflation rate in Lesotho is the index for the current month compared with that of the corresponding month in the previous year.

$$\{(I_c/I_p)-1\} \times 100 = \text{Inflation rate}$$

Where:         $I_c$  = index for the current month,  
                   $I_p$  = index for the same month in the previous year.

Bureau of Statistics (BOS) recommends this method over others for estimating the annual inflation rate. This method tends to eliminate any possible seasonal effects, since the indices for the corresponding months are compared. However, it should be borne in mind that inflation rate calculated according to this method fluctuates considerably.

Goods and services are classified according to Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose -International Comparison Programme (COICOP-ICP).

The weights are calculated on the basis of the 2010/11 Household Budget Survey (HBS). The CPI results are published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month of data collection. Additional and more detailed information is also available from the BOS website: [www.bos.gov.ls](http://www.bos.gov.ls), Email address: [economics@bos.gov.ls](mailto:economics@bos.gov.ls) and or at BOS Library.

### Annex 3: Areas where monthly price data are collected

DISTRICT	AREA: URBAN	AREA: RURAL
1. Butha-Buthe	Butha-Buthe	Malelefiloane Tsime Qholaqhoe Ha Molapo Manamela Qalo Muela Khukhune Ha Selomo Seboche
2. Leribe	Hlotse Maputsoe	Ha Lejone Pitseng Peka Kolonyama
3. Berea	Teya-Teyaneng	Mamathe Mapoteng Makhoroana Sefikeng Khotsi's Ha Rakoto Ha Koali
4. Maseru	Maseru Semonkong	Roma Nazareth Moriya Matsieng Mants'ebo Ramabanta
5. Mafeteng	Mafeteng	Van Rooyen's Ts'akhlo Kolo Ts'ita's Nek Ramatseliso Motsekuoa Ha Makhakhe Matelile ha Seeiso Mount Tabor Thabana Morena Ha Khobotle Thaba Ts'oeu
6. Mohale's Hoek	Mohale's hoek	Phamong Holy Cross Masemousu

		Mpharane
7. Quthing	Moyeni	A' skop Mount Moorosi Mphaki
8. Qhacha's Nek	Qhacha's Nek	Sehlabathebe Ha Ramatseliso Ha Sekake White hill Ha Mpiti
9. Mokhotlong	Mokhotlong	Tlokoeng Mapholaneng Janteu Linakaneng Tlhanyaku phahameng
10. Thaba-Tseka	Thaba-Tseka	Mantsonyane Sehonghong Mashai katse





Kingdom of Lesotho



**Statistical Report  
No.12:2018**

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
MARCH 2018**



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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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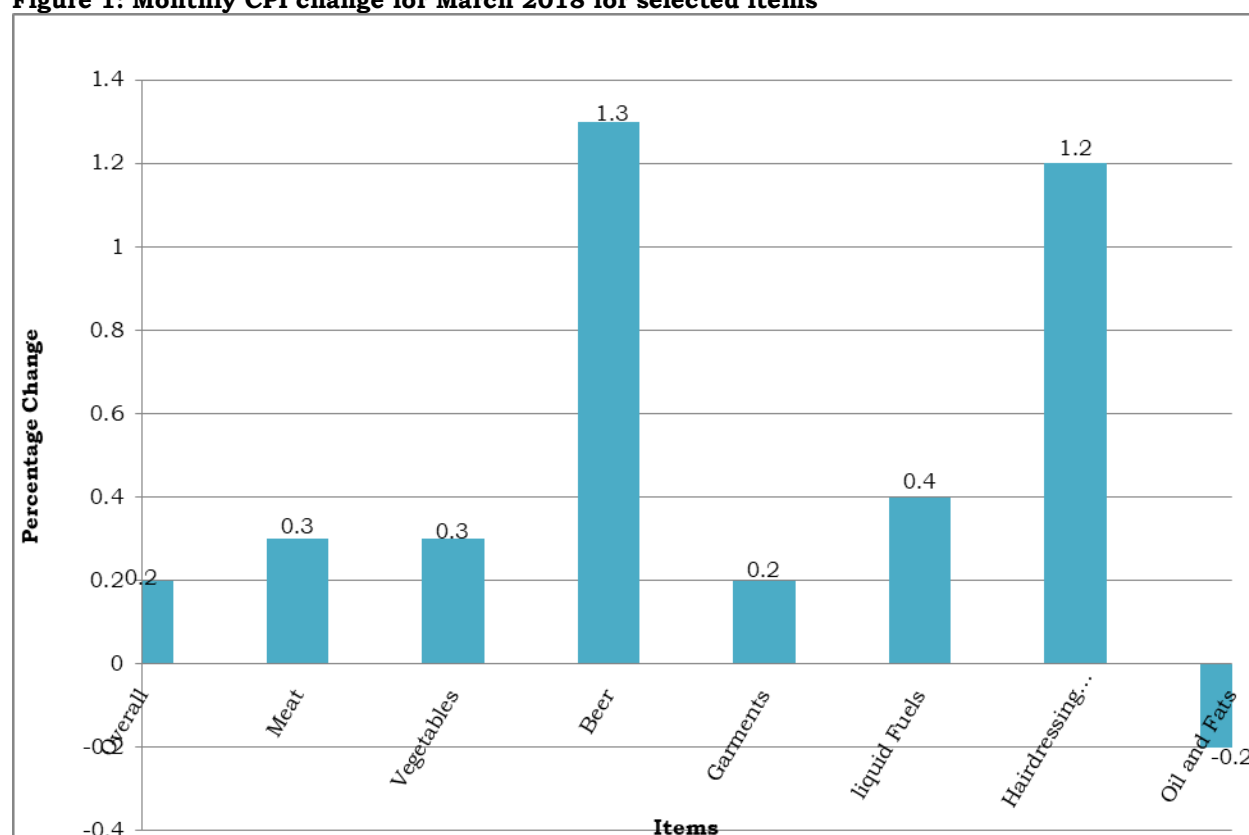
## 1. Introduction

This report presents the Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for March 2018 for Lesotho. The CPI is an indicator that shows changes in the cost of buying a fixed bundle of consumer goods and services as determined for the base period. In this report, CPI is calculated on monthly basis; thus, CPI is calculated comparing the prices of the current month with the prices of the previous month. Prices are collected every month in twelve urban areas and about seventy selected rural areas of Lesotho by personal visits to the outlets. About 40000 price quotations are collected in about 800 outlets for about 350 commodity items.

## 2. Monthly Consumer Price Index

This section covers the monthly price change for Lesotho. As depicted by Figure 1, the overall monthly CPI change for March 2018 is 0.2 percent which shows 0.1 percentage increase from the index level observed in February 2018. The overall CPI measures a change in the index level for all items in March 2018 compared to the index level for all items in February 2018. The observed increase in monthly price indices was recorded for the following classes with their respective percentages: Meat (0.3 percent), Vegetables(0.3percent), Beer(1.3percent), Garments (0.2), Liquid fuels(0.4percent) as well as Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments (1.2 percent). However, the increases in monthly price indices were counteracted by a decline of 0.2 percent for Oil and Fats.

**Figure 1: Monthly CPI change for March 2018 for selected items**



The large monthly increases in the classes mentioned above were observed in the price indices of the following specific commodity items: Bacon, Pork, Tomatoes, Garlic, Hansa, Black label, Men jeans, Other children clothing, Paraffin, Relaxer as well as Braiding without artificial.

### **3. Annual Inflation Rate**

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 annual inflation rate in this report is computed by comparing the CPI level of March 2018 to that of March 2017. The annual inflation rate is estimated 4.8 percent (see Table 1) which shows 0.4 percentage point decrease from the rate observed in February 2018.

The divisions, which showed a significant annual increase in the inflation rate were: Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (6.3 percent), Clothing and footwear (1.5 percent) Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas (7.4 percent), Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (5.0 percent), Recreation and culture (5.4 percent) and Miscellaneous goods and services (4.7 percent) (See Table 1).

The following groups had a contribution to the annual increase: Food with 6.3 Percent, Alcohol with 5.9 percent, Clothing with 1.5percent, Electricity, Gas and other fuels with 11.0 percent, Household textiles with 16.4 percent and Personal care with 7.2 percent (See Table 2).

### **4. Services and Commodities Indices**

Services and commodities (disaggregated into Non-durables, semi durables and durables) indices are presented in this section. The services index is derived by aggregating all the services indices. Non-durables, semi durables and durable indices are calculated by aggregating all the Non-durables, semi durables and durables indices respectively.

The monthly increase was observed with the following percentages; Services with 0.3 percent while Non-Durables, Semi- Durables and Durables showed 0.2 percent each. The annual inflation rates were 5.7, 5.0, 2.5 and 2.4 percent for Non-Durables, Durables, Semi-Durables and Services, respectively (see Table 1).

## Annex 1: Tables

**Table 1: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Divisions – March 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Mar17	Feb 18	Mar 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	1000	101.63	106.31	106.54	0.2	4.8
01. Food &Non-alcoholic beverages	361.13	101.45	107.71	107.85	0.1	6.3
02. Alcohol and Tobacco	33.31	102.57	107.33	108.46	1.0	5.7
03. Clothing &Footwear	130.57	100.56	101.89	102.08	0.2	1.5
04. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	123.97	103.75	111.31	111.45	0.1	7.4
05. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	84.77	101.04	105.83	106.08	0.2	5.0
06 Health	15.04	99.88	100.13	100.14	0.0	0.3
07. Transport	48.21	101.75	101.54	101.55	0.0	-0.2
08 Communications	21.05	100.02	98.46	98.46	0.0	-1.6
09. Recreation and culture	57.08	100.76	106.10	106.24	0.1	5.4
10. Education	42.00	105.11	108.79	109.54	0.7	4.2
11. Restaurants and Hotels	10.30	100.16	102.28	102.45	0.2	2.3
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	72.59	100.72	104.87	105.41	0.5	4.7
<b>Services</b>	200.05	101.29	103.33	103.68	0.3	2.4
<b>Non-durables</b>	549.99	96.45	101.75	101.93	0.2	5.7
<b>Semi durables</b>	168.56	100.33	102.65	102.85	0.2	2.5
<b>Durables</b>	81.40	100.59	105.48	105.65	0.2	5.0

**Table 2: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups — March 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Mar17	Feb 18	Mar 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	1000.00	101.63	106.31	106.54	0.2	4.8
01.1Food	348.52	101.45	107.72	107.85	0.1	6.3
01.2Non alcoholic beverages	12.61	101.35	107.33	107.66	0.3	6.2
02.1Alcohol	28.28	102.85	107.59	108.90	1.2	5.9
02.2Tobacco	5.03	101.01	105.90	106.00	0.1	4.9
03.1Clothing	90.26	100.48	101.76	102.01	0.2	1.5
03.2Footwear	40.31	100.73	102.17	102.23	0.1	1.5
04.1Actual rentals for housing	2.49	100.24	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.3
04.2Imputed rent for housing	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3Maintanance and repair of dwelling	8.03	100.53	101.57	101.66	0.1	1.1
04.4Water and miscellaneous services relating to dwelling	4.38	100.01	105.00	105.00	0.0	5.0
04.5Electricity, Gas and other fuels	79.33	105.80	117.22	117.43	0.2	11.0
05.1Furniture and furnishings	18.87	100.61	105.05	105.29	0.2	4.7
05.2Household textiles	11.95	102.93	119.03	119.76	0.6	16.4
05.3Househould appliances	4.56	100.81	103.82	103.89	0.1	3.0
05.4Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.11	100.68	100.74	0.1	0.6
05.5Tools and equipment for house and garden	7.08	100.08	100.00	100.01	0.0	-0.1
05.6Goods and services for routine household maintenance	36.93	100.99	104.07	104.26	0.2	3.2
06.1Medical products, appliances and equipment	7.68	99.65	99.97	99.97	0.0	0.3
06.2Out-patient services	1.89	100.45	101.21	101.21	0.0	0.8
06.3Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1Purchase of vehicles	8.73	100.00	101.58	101.71	0.1	1.7
7.2Operation of personal transport	23.87	103.53	102.51	102.49	0.0	-1.0
7.3Transport services	15.60	100.00	100.03	100.03	0.0	0.0
8.1Postal services	0.13	103.29	102.41	102.41	0.0	-0.8
8.2Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	98.29	98.29	0.0	-1.7
9.1Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	42.39	100.77	107.56	107.75	0.2	6.9
9.3Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	0.47	100.56	108.93	109.42	0.5	8.8
9.4Recreational and cultural services	3.22	100.00	100.74	100.74	0.0	0.7
9.5 Newspapers, books and stationery	10.74	100.96	101.98	101.95	0.0	1.0
09.6Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	106.23	115.94	117.44	1.3	10.6
10.2Secondary education	20.19	108.12	112.03	112.59	0.5	4.1
10.3Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	103.48	105.19	1.7	3.5
10.5Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1Catering services	7.32	100.22	102.83	103.07	0.2	2.8
11.2Accommodation services	2.98	100.00	100.91	100.92	0.0	0.9
12.1Personal care	38.90	101.07	107.36	108.37	0.9	7.2
12.3Personal effects	7.10	100.00	102.00	101.99	0.0	2.0
12.4Social Protection	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5Insurance	6.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6Financial services n.e.c	6.09	100.00	105.49	105.49	0.0	5.5
12.7Other services	13.23	100.77	101.47	101.47	0.0	0.7

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – – March 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Mar17	Feb 18	Mar 18	M%	Y%
Overall CPI	1000.00	101.63	106.31	106.54	0.2	4.8
01.1.1Bread and cereals	138.36	101.00	101.05	101.07	0.0	0.1
01.1.2Meat	49.04	101.34	118.74	119.07	0.3	17.5
01.1.3Fish	6.73	101.26	106.96	107.79	0.8	6.4
01.1.4Milk, cheese and eggs	22.05	101.41	109.77	109.99	0.2	8.5
01.1.5Oils and fats	43.96	101.61	106.64	106.46	-0.2	4.8
01.1.6Fruit	2.02	101.13	109.17	109.71	0.5	8.5
01.1.7Vegetables	46.40	102.67	115.97	116.38	0.3	13.4
01.1.8Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	22.15	101.92	108.83	108.94	0.1	6.9
01.1.9Food products n.e.c.	17.82	101.27	106.55	106.79	0.2	5.4
01.2.1Coffee, tea and cocoa	6.41	101.74	110.04	110.38	0.3	8.5
01.2.2Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	6.21	100.95	104.53	104.84	0.3	3.9
02.1.1Spirits	0.67	101.53	104.54	105.02	0.5	3.4
02.1.2Wine	2.18	100.86	102.48	103.07	0.6	2.2
02.1.3Beer	25.42	103.05	108.11	109.50	1.3	6.3
02.2.1Tobacco	5.03	101.01	105.90	106.00	0.1	4.9
03.1.1Clothing materials	0.78	100.00	102.79	103.48	0.7	3.5
03.1.2Garments	80.75	100.52	101.70	101.89	0.2	1.4
03.1.3Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	8.66	100.15	102.25	102.99	0.7	2.8
03.1.4Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.06	100.00	104.14	104.14	0.0	4.1
03.2.1Shoes and other footwear	40.07	100.74	102.16	102.23	0.1	1.5
03.2.2Repair and hire of footwear	0.24	100.00	102.61	102.61	0.0	2.6
04.1.1Actual rentals paid by tenants	2.49	100.24	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.3
04.2.1Imputed rentals of owner-occupiers	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3.1Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	4.82	100.88	102.62	102.77	0.1	1.9
04.3.2Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.1Water supply	3.27	100.00	106.70	106.70	0.0	6.7
04.4.2Refuse collection	0.08	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.3Sewerage services	0.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.4Other services relating to the dwelling	0.83	100.04	100.04	100.04	0.0	0.0
04.5.1Electricity	15.26	100.00	106.99	106.99	0.0	7.0
04.5.2Gas	22.50	104.29	114.39	114.44	0.0	9.7
04.5.3Liquid fuels	28.55	110.19	130.12	130.68	0.4	18.6
04.5.4Solid fuels	28.55	110.19	130.12	130.68	0.4	18.6
05.1.1Furniture and furnishings	18.46	100.61	105.14	105.39	0.2	4.8
05.1.2Carpets and other floor coverings	0.38	100.89	101.00	100.99	0.0	0.1
05.1.3Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.04	100.00	102.46	102.46	0.0	2.5
05.2.1Household textiles	11.95	102.93	119.03	119.76	0.6	16.4
05.3.1Major household appliances whether electric or not	3.94	100.91	104.37	104.44	0.1	3.5

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes -- March 2018 (cont.)**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Mar17	Feb 18	Mar 18	M%	Y%
05.3.2Small electric household appliances	0.61	100.20	100.38	100.37	0.0	0.2
05.3.3Repair of household appliances	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
05.4.1Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.11	100.68	100.74	0.1	0.6
05.5.1Major tools and equipment	5.58	100.00	99.84	99.84	0.0	-0.2
05.5.2Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1.50	100.36	100.62	100.65	0.0	0.3
05.6.1Non-durable household goods	34.07	101.07	104.41	104.62	0.2	3.5
05.6.2Domestic services and home care services	2.86	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.1.1Pharmaceutical products	4.80	99.44	99.89	99.89	0.0	0.5
06.1.2Other medical products	0.61	100.10	100.70	100.74	0.0	0.6
06.1.3Therapeutic appliances and equipment	2.26	100.00	99.92	99.92	0.0	-0.1
06.2.1Medical Services	1.09	100.78	102.09	102.09	0.0	1.3
06.2.2Dental services	0.13	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.2.3Paramedical services	0.67	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.3.1Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.1Motor cars	7.89	100.00	101.68	101.82	0.1	1.8
07.1.3Bicycles	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.4Animal drawn vehicles	0.78	100.00	100.70	100.70	0.0	0.7
07.2.1Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	8.40	101.76	102.47	102.41	-0.1	0.6
07.2.2Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	9.39	107.41	102.40	102.39	0.0	-4.7
07.2.3Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	3.37	100.00	104.55	104.55	0.0	4.5
07.2.4Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	2.71	100.00	100.49	100.49	0.0	0.5
07.3.2Passenger transport by road	13.12	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.3Passenger transport by air	0.24	100.00	102.21	102.21	0.0	2.2
07.3.4Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.6Other Transport services	2.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.1.1Postal services	0.13	103.29	102.41	102.41	0.0	-0.8
8.2.1Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3.1Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	98.29	98.29	0.0	-1.7
9.1.1Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	35.84	100.82	109.13	109.36	0.2	8.5
9.1.2Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	5.91	100.45	98.45	98.45	0.0	-2.0
9.1.3Information processing equipment	0.33	101.57	107.18	107.18	0.0	5.5
9.1.5Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.3.1Games, toys and hobbies	0.29	100.91	113.65	114.45	0.7	13.4
09.3.2Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.3.3Gardens, plants and flowers	0.05	100.00	102.44	102.44	0.0	2.4
09.3.4Pets and related products	0.03	100.00	103.82	103.83	0.0	3.8
09.3.5Veterinary and other services for pets	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.1Recreational and sport services	0.14	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.2Cultural services	3.06	100.00	100.67	100.67	0.0	0.7
09.4.3Games of chance	0.02	100.00	115.38	115.38	0.0	15.4
09.5.1Books	3.37	100.80	100.35	100.22	-0.1	-0.6
09.5.2Newspapers and periodicals	0.61	101.11	102.29	102.29	0.0	1.2
09.5.3Miscellaneous printed matter	0.11	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.5.4Stationery and drawing materials	6.66	101.05	102.80	102.83	0.0	1.8
09.6.1Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0



**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – March 2018 (cont.)**

	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Mar17</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Index numbers Mar 18</b>	<b>% change M%</b>	<b>% change Y%</b>
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	106.23	115.94	117.44	1.3	10.6
10.2.1Secondary education	20.19	108.12	112.03	112.59	0.5	4.1
10.3.1Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4.1Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	103.48	105.19	1.7	3.5
10.5.1Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1.1Restaurants, caf��s and the like	7.27	100.22	102.85	103.09	0.2	2.9
11.1.2Canteens	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.2.1Accommodation services	2.98	100.00	100.91	100.92	0.0	0.9
12.1.1Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	29.16	101.02	107.87	109.13	1.2	8.0
12.1.2Electrical appliances for personal care	0.19	100.00	99.72	99.72	0.0	-0.3
12.1.3Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	9.55	101.26	105.95	106.22	0.3	4.9
12.3.1Jewellery, clocks and watches	0.30	100.00	100.11	99.86	-0.2	-0.1
12.3.2Other personal effects	6.80	100.00	102.08	102.08	0.0	2.1
12.4.1Social Protection services	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.2Insurance connected with dwelling	0.91	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.3Insurance connected with health	2.37	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.4Insurance connected with transport	3.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6.2Financial services n.e.c	6.09	100.00	105.49	105.49	0.0	5.5
12.7.1Other services n.e.c	13.23	100.77	101.47	101.47	0.0	0.7

**Annex 2: Explanations and Technical Notes**

The CPI has been rebased and the new reference period is December 2016. The linking factor was estimated and the indices from December 2016 and the months preceding December were multiplied by this factor. The resulting indices were then multiplied by 100/ December Index.

The formula used in calculating the price indices is Modified Laspeyres index formula with elementary price indices being calculated using geometric mean. The officially accepted method of measuring inflation rate in Lesotho is the index for the current month compared with that of the corresponding month in the previous year.

$$\{(I_c/I_p)-1\} \times 100 = \text{Inflation rate}$$

Where:         $I_c$  = index for the current month,  
                   $I_p$  = index for the same month in the previous year.

Bureau of Statistics (BOS) recommends this method over others for estimating the annual inflation rate. This method tends to eliminate any possible seasonal effects, since the indices for the corresponding months are compared. However, it should be borne in mind that inflation rate calculated according to this method fluctuates considerably.

Goods and services are classified according to Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose -International Comparison Programme (COICOP-ICP).

The weights are calculated on the basis of the 2010/11 Household Budget Survey (HBS). The CPI results are published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month of data collection. Additional and more detailed information is also available from the BOS website: [www.bos.gov.ls](http://www.bos.gov.ls), Email address: [economics@bos.gov.ls](mailto:economics@bos.gov.ls) and or at BOS Library.

### **Annex 3: Areas where monthly price data are collected**

<b>DISTRICT</b>	<b>AREA: URBAN</b>	<b>AREA: RURAL</b>
1. Butha-Buthe	Butha-Buthe	Malelefiloane Tsime Qholaqhoe Ha Molapo Manamela Qalo Muela Khukhune Ha Selomo Seboche
2. Leribe	Hlotse Maputsoe	Ha Lejone Pitseng Peka Kolonyama
3. Berea	Teya-Teyaneng	Mamathe Mapoteng Makhoroana Sefikeng Khotsi's Ha Rakoto Ha Koali
4. Maseru	Maseru Semonkong	Roma Nazareth Morija Matsieng Mants'ebo Ramabanta
5. Mafeteng	Mafeteng	Van Rooyen's Ts'akholo Kolo Ts'ita's Nek Ramatseliso Motsekuoa Ha Makhakhe Matelile ha Seeiso Mount Tabor Thabana Morena Ha Khobotle Thaba Ts'oeu
6. Mohale's Hoek	Mohale's hoek	Phamong Holy Cross Masemousu Mpharane
7. Quthing	Moyeni	A' skop Mount Moorosi

		Mphaki
8. Qhacha's Nek	Qhacha's Nek	Sehlabathebe Ha Ramatseliso Ha Sekake White hill Ha Mpiti
9. Mokhotlong	Mokhotlong	Tlokoeng Mapholaneng Janteu Linakaneng Tlhanyaku phahameng
10. Thaba-Tseka	Thaba-Tseka	Mantsonyane Sehonghong Mashai katse



Kingdom of Lesotho



## Statistical Report No.18:2018

### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX APRIL 2018



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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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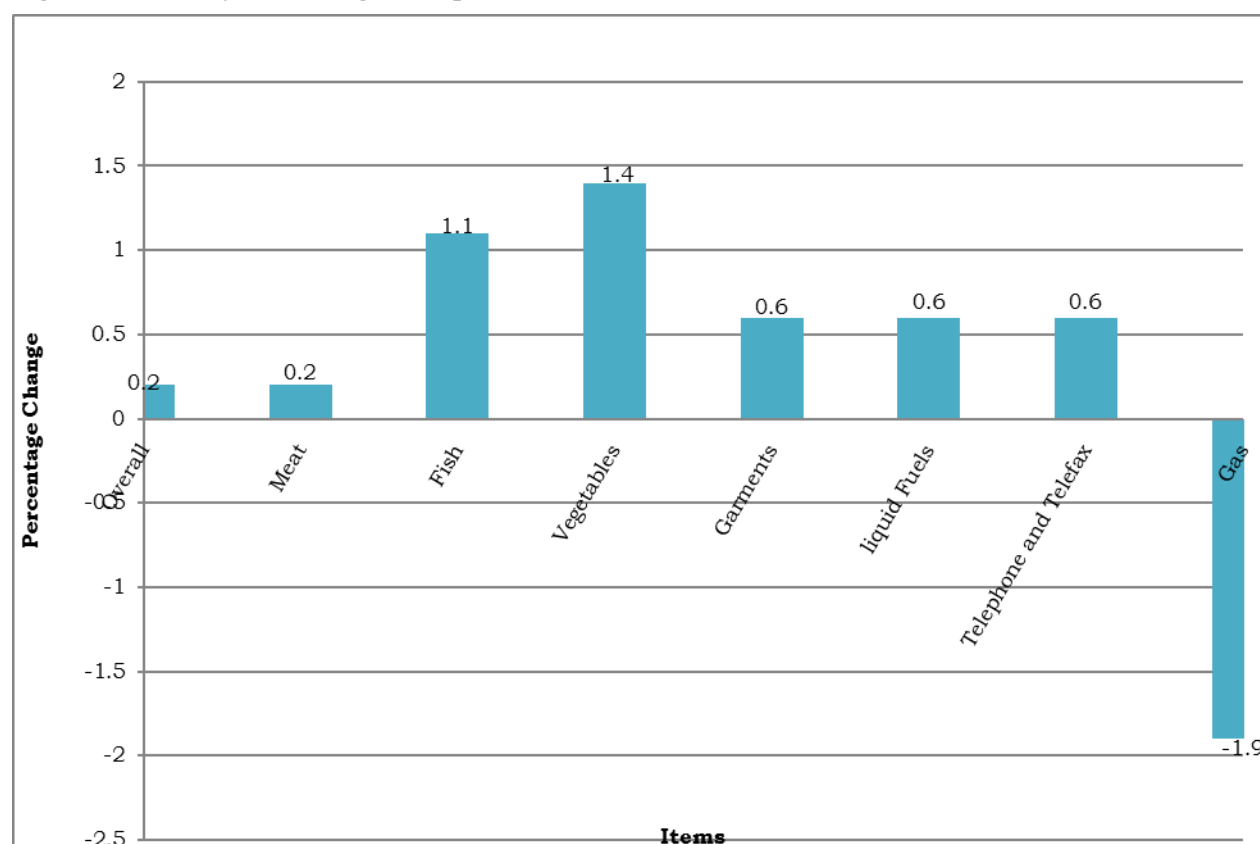
## 1. Introduction

This report presents the Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for April 2018 for Lesotho. The CPI is an indicator that shows changes in the cost of buying a fixed bundle of consumer goods and services as determined for the base period. In this report, CPI is calculated on monthly basis; thus, CPI is calculated comparing the prices of the current month with the prices of the previous month. Prices are collected every month in twelve urban areas and about seventy selected rural areas of Lesotho by personal visits to the outlets. About 40000 price quotations are collected in about 800 outlets for about 350 commodity items.

## 2. Monthly Consumer Price Index

This section covers the monthly price change for Lesotho. As depicted by Figure 1, the overall monthly CPI change for April 2018 is 0.2 percent which shows no change from the index level observed in March 2018. The overall CPI measures a change in the index level for all items in April 2018 compared to the index level for all items in March 2018. The observed increase in monthly price indices was recorded for the following classes with their respective percentages: Meat (0.2 percent), Fish (1.1 percent), Vegetables (1.4 percent), Garments (0.6 percent), Liquid fuels (0.6 percent) as well as Telephone and telefax (0.6 percent). However, the increases in monthly price indices were counteracted by a decline of 1.9 percent for Gas.

**Figure 1: Monthly CPI change for April 2018 for selected items**



The large monthly increases in the classes mentioned above were observed in the price indices of the following specific commodity items: Pork, Poultry, Fish Tomatoes, Cabbage, Skirts, Boys trouser, Paraffin, Relaxer as well as Telephone calls.

### **3. Annual Inflation Rate**

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 annual inflation rate in this report is computed by comparing the CPI level of April 2018 to that of April 2017. The annual inflation rate is estimated 3.8 percent (see Table 1) which shows 1.0 percentage point decrease from the rate observed in March 2018.

The divisions, which showed a significant annual increase in the inflation rate were: Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (4.9 percent), Clothing and footwear (1.6 percent) Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas ( 5.5 percent), Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (3.4 percent), Recreation and culture 3.8 percent) and Miscellaneous goods and services (3.7 percent) (See Table 1).

The following groups had a contribution to the annual increase: Food with 4.8 Percent, Alcohol with 5.8 percent, Clothing with 1.6 percent, Electricity, Gas and other fuels with 8.1 percent, Household textiles with 8.5 percent and Personal care with 5.6 percent (See Table 2).

### **4. Services and Commodities Indices**

Services and commodities (disaggregated into Non-durables, semi durables and durables) indices are presented in this section. The services index is derived by aggregating all the services indices. Non-durables, semi durables and durable indices are calculated by aggregating all the Non-durables, semi durables and durables indices respectively.

The monthly increase was observed with the following percentages; Semi- Durables with 0.4 percent, 0.1 percent for both Non-Durables and Services whereas Durables showed no change. The annual inflation rates were 4.5, 3.6, 2.0 and 1.9 percent for Non-Durables, Durables, Semi-Durables and Services, respectively (see Table 1).



## Annex 1: Tables

**Table 1: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Divisions – April 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Apr 17	Mar 18	Apr 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	1000	102.74	106.49	106.67	0.2	3.8
01. Food & Non-alcoholic beverages	361.13	103.11	107.85	108.14	0.3	4.9
02. Alcohol and Tobacco	33.31	102.98	108.46	108.76	0.3	5.6
03. Clothing & Footwear	130.57	100.89	102.08	102.50	0.4	1.6
04. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	123.97	105.48	111.45	111.23	-0.2	5.5
05. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	84.77	102.63	106.08	106.16	0.1	3.4
06 Health	15.04	99.88	100.14	100.17	0.0	0.3
07. Transport	48.21	100.48	101.55	101.55	0.0	1.1
08 Communications	21.05	100.02	98.46	99.18	0.7	-0.8
09. Recreation and culture	57.08	102.43	106.24	106.29	0.0	3.8
10. Education	42.00	105.11	108.30	108.30	0.0	3.0
11. Restaurants and Hotels	10.30	100.18	102.45	102.78	0.3	2.6
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	72.59	101.77	105.41	105.50	0.1	3.7
<b>Services</b>	<b>200.05</b>	<b>101.64</b>	<b>103.42</b>	<b>103.53</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>Non-durables</b>	<b>549.99</b>	<b>97.69</b>	<b>101.93</b>	<b>102.05</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Semi durables</b>	<b>168.56</b>	<b>101.16</b>	<b>102.85</b>	<b>103.23</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>Durables</b>	<b>81.40</b>	<b>101.99</b>	<b>105.65</b>	<b>105.67</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>

**Table 2: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups – April 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Apr 17	Mar 18	Apr 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	1000.00	102.74	106.49	106.67	0.2	3.8
01.1Food	348.52	103.16	107.85	108.14	0.3	4.8
01.2Non alcoholic beverages	12.61	101.73	107.66	107.89	0.2	6.1
02.1Alcohol	28.28	103.26	108.90	109.22	0.3	5.8
02.2Tobacco	5.03	101.38	106.00	106.19	0.2	4.7
03.1Clothing	90.26	100.76	102.01	102.60	0.6	1.8
03.2Footwear	40.31	101.17	102.23	102.27	0.0	1.1
04.1Actual rentals for housing	2.49	100.24	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.3
04.2Imputed rent for housing	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3Maintanance and repair of dwelling	8.03	100.76	101.66	101.76	0.1	1.0
04.4Water and miscellaneous services relating to dwelling	4.38	102.46	105.00	105.00	0.0	2.5
04.5Electricity, Gas and other fuels	79.33	108.34	117.43	117.08	-0.3	8.1
05.1Furniture and furnishings	18.87	101.74	105.29	105.39	0.1	3.6
05.2Household textiles	11.95	110.52	119.76	119.92	0.1	8.5
05.3Househould appliances	4.56	100.91	103.89	103.62	-0.3	2.7
05.4Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.18	100.74	100.89	0.1	0.7
05.5Tools and equipment for house and garden	7.08	100.08	100.01	99.99	0.0	-0.1
05.6Goods and services for routine household maintenance	36.93	101.59	104.26	104.36	0.1	2.7
06.1Medical products, appliances and equipment	7.68	99.66	99.97	100.04	0.1	0.4
06.2Out-patient services	1.89	100.45	101.21	101.21	0.0	0.8
06.3Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1Purchase of vehicles	8.73	100.00	101.71	101.83	0.1	1.8
7.2Operation of personal transport	23.87	100.98	102.49	102.41	-0.1	1.4
7.3Transport services	15.60	100.00	100.03	100.06	0.0	0.1
8.1Postal services	0.13	103.29	102.41	102.41	0.0	-0.8
8.2Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	98.29	99.08	0.8	-0.9
9.1Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	42.39	102.96	107.75	107.75	0.0	4.7
9.3Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	0.47	101.47	109.42	110.55	1.0	8.9
9.4Recreational and cultural services	3.22	100.31	100.74	100.74	0.0	0.4
9.5 Newspapers, books and stationery	10.74	101.10	101.95	102.19	0.2	1.1
09.6Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	106.23	114.77	114.77	0.0	8.0
10.2Secondary education	20.19	108.12	111.83	111.83	0.0	3.4
10.3Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1Catering services	7.32	100.26	103.07	103.54	0.4	3.3
11.2Accommodation services	2.98	100.00	100.92	100.92	0.0	0.9
12.1Personal care	38.90	102.62	108.37	108.40	0.0	5.6
12.3Personal effects	7.10	100.00	101.99	102.77	0.8	2.8
12.4Social Protection	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5Insurance	6.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7Other services	13.23	100.77	101.47	101.47	0.0	0.7

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – April 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Apr 17	Mar 18	Apr 18	M%	Y%
Overall CPI	1000.00	102.74	106.49	106.67	0.2	3.8
01.1.1Bread and cereals	138.36	102.85	101.07	101.02	0.0	-1.8
01.1.2Meat	49.04	103.39	119.07	119.36	0.2	15.4
01.1.3Fish	6.73	101.36	107.79	108.99	1.1	7.5
01.1.4Milk, cheese and eggs	22.05	102.23	109.99	110.14	0.1	7.7
01.1.5Oils and fats	43.96	104.16	106.46	106.43	0.0	2.2
01.1.6Fruit	2.02	101.57	109.71	110.23	0.5	8.5
01.1.7Vegetables	46.40	103.68	116.38	118.08	1.5	13.9
01.1.8Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	22.15	103.87	108.94	108.90	0.0	4.9
01.1.9Food products n.e.c.	17.82	102.20	106.79	106.97	0.2	4.7
01.2.1Coffee, tea and cocoa	6.41	102.21	110.38	110.50	0.1	8.1
01.2.2Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	6.21	101.23	104.84	105.20	0.3	3.9
02.1.1Spirits	0.67	102.21	105.02	105.51	0.5	3.2
02.1.2Wine	2.18	100.95	103.07	103.33	0.3	2.4
02.1.3Beer	25.42	103.49	109.50	109.82	0.3	6.1
02.2.1Tobacco	5.03	101.38	106.00	106.19	0.2	4.7
03.1.1Clothing materials	0.78	100.00	103.48	104.47	0.9	4.5
03.1.2Garments	80.75	100.83	101.89	102.51	0.6	1.7
03.1.3Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	8.66	100.18	102.99	103.20	0.2	3.0
03.1.4Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.06	101.48	104.14	104.14	0.0	2.6
03.2.1Shoes and other footwear	40.07	101.18	102.23	102.27	0.0	1.1
03.2.2Repair and hire of footwear	0.24	100.00	102.61	102.61	0.0	2.6
04.1.1Actual rentals paid by tenants	2.49	100.24	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.3
04.2.1Imputed rentals of owner-occupiers	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3.1Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	4.82	101.26	102.77	102.94	0.2	1.7
04.3.2Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.1Water supply	3.27	103.29	106.70	106.70	0.0	3.3
04.4.2Refuse collection	0.08	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.3Sewerage services	0.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.4Other services relating to the dwelling	0.83	100.04	100.04	100.04	0.0	0.0
04.5.1Electricity	15.26	103.44	106.99	106.99	0.0	3.4
04.5.2Gas	22.50	106.01	114.44	112.22	-1.9	5.9
04.5.3Liquid fuels	28.55	114.03	130.68	131.45	0.6	15.3
04.5.4Solid fuels	28.55	114.03	130.68	131.45	0.6	15.3
05.1.1Furniture and furnishings	18.46	101.76	105.39	105.49	0.1	3.7
05.1.2Carpets and other floor coverings	0.38	100.89	100.99	100.99	0.0	0.1
05.1.3Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.04	100.00	102.46	102.46	0.0	2.5
05.2.1Household textiles	11.95	110.52	119.76	119.92	0.1	8.5
05.3.1Major household appliances whether electric or not	3.94	101.00	104.44	104.24	-0.2	3.2

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – April 2018 (cont.)**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Apr 17	Mar 18	Apr 18	M%	Y%
05.3.2Small electric household appliances	0.61	100.33	100.37	99.67	-0.7	-0.7
05.3.3Repair of household appliances	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
05.4.1Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.18	100.74	100.89	0.1	0.7
05.5.1Major tools and equipment	5.58	100.00	99.84	99.77	-0.1	-0.2
05.5.2Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1.50	100.40	100.65	100.80	0.2	0.4
05.6.1Non-durable household goods	34.07	101.73	104.62	104.73	0.1	2.9
05.6.2Domestic services and home care services	2.86	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.1.1Pharmaceutical products	4.80	99.44	99.89	99.90	0.0	0.5
06.1.2Other medical products	0.61	100.21	100.74	101.53	0.8	1.3
06.1.3Therapeutic appliances and equipment	2.26	100.00	99.92	99.92	0.0	-0.1
06.2.1Medical Services	1.09	100.78	102.09	102.09	0.0	1.3
06.2.2Dental services	0.13	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.2.3Paramedical services	0.67	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.3.1Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.1Motor cars	7.89	100.00	101.82	101.96	0.1	2.0
07.1.3Bicycles	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.4Animal drawn vehicles	0.78	100.00	100.70	100.70	0.0	0.7
07.2.1Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	8.40	102.50	102.41	102.60	0.2	0.1
07.2.2Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	9.39	100.24	102.39	101.78	-0.6	1.5
07.2.3Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	3.37	100.00	104.55	105.28	0.7	5.3
07.2.4Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	2.71	100.00	100.49	100.49	0.0	0.5
07.3.2Passenger transport by road	13.12	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.3Passenger transport by air	0.24	100.00	102.21	104.09	1.8	4.1
07.3.4Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.6Other Transport services	2.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.1.1Postal services	0.13	103.29	102.41	102.41	0.0	-0.8
8.2.1Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3.1Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	98.29	99.08	0.8	-0.9
9.1.1Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	35.84	103.30	109.36	109.36	0.0	5.9
9.1.2Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	5.91	101.06	98.45	98.45	0.0	-2.6
9.1.3Information processing equipment	0.33	102.84	107.18	107.18	0.0	4.2
9.1.5Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.3.1Games, toys and hobbies	0.29	102.38	114.45	116.31	1.6	13.6
09.3.2Equipment for sport, camping and open air recreation	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.3.3Gardens, plants and flowers	0.05	100.00	102.44	102.45	0.0	2.5
09.3.4Pets and related products	0.03	100.00	103.83	103.56	-0.3	3.6
09.3.5Veterinary and other services for pets	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.1Recreational and sport services	0.14	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.2Cultural services	3.06	100.33	100.67	100.67	0.0	0.3
09.4.3Games of chance	0.02	100.00	115.38	115.38	0.0	15.4
09.5.1Books	3.37	100.83	100.22	100.54	0.3	-0.3
09.5.2Newspapers and periodicals	0.61	101.11	102.29	103.27	1.0	2.1
09.5.3Miscellaneous printed matter	0.11	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.5.4Stationery and drawing materials	6.66	101.25	102.83	102.95	0.1	1.7
09.6.1Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – April 2018 (cont.)**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Apr 17	Mar 18	Apr 18	M%	Y%
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	106.23	114.77	114.77	0.0	8.0
10.2.1Secondary education	20.19	108.12	111.83	111.83	0.0	3.4
10.3.1Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4.1Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5.1Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1.1Restaurants, caf��s and the like	7.27	100.26	103.09	103.56	0.5	3.3
11.1.2Canteens	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.2.1Accommodation services	2.98	100.00	100.92	100.92	0.0	0.9
12.1.1Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	29.16	102.83	109.13	109.13	0.0	6.1
12.1.2Electrical appliances for personal care	0.19	100.00	99.72	98.81	-0.9	-1.2
12.1.3Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	9.55	102.04	106.22	106.36	0.1	4.2
12.3.1Jewellery, clocks and watches	0.30	100.00	99.86	99.88	0.0	-0.1
12.3.2Other personal effects	6.80	100.00	102.08	102.90	0.8	2.9
12.4.1Social Protection services	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.2Insurance connected with dwelling	0.91	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.3Insurance connected with health	2.37	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.4Insurance connected with transport	3.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6.2Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7.1Other services n.e.c	13.23	100.77	101.47	101.47	0.0	0.7

## **Annex 2: Explanations and Technical Notes**

The CPI has been rebased and the new reference period is December 2016. The linking factor was estimated and the indices from December 2016 and the months preceding December were multiplied by this factor. The resulting indices were then multiplied by 100/ December Index.

The formula used in calculating the price indices is Modified Laspeyres index formula with elementary price indices being calculated using geometric mean. The officially accepted method of measuring inflation rate in Lesotho is the index for the current month compared with that of the corresponding month in the previous year.

$$\{(I_c/I_p)-1\} \times 100 = \text{Inflation rate}$$

Where:         $I_c$  = index for the current month,  
                   $I_p$  = index for the same month in the previous year.

Bureau of Statistics (BOS) recommends this method over others for estimating the annual inflation rate. This method tends to eliminate any possible seasonal effects, since the indices for the corresponding months are compared. However, it should be borne in mind that inflation rate calculated according to this method fluctuates considerably.

Goods and services are classified according to Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose -International Comparison Programme (COICOP-ICP).

The weights are calculated on the basis of the 2010/11 Household Budget Survey (HBS). The CPI results are published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month of data collection. Additional and more detailed information is also available from the BOS website: [www.bos.gov.ls](http://www.bos.gov.ls), Email address: [economics@bos.gov.ls](mailto:economics@bos.gov.ls) and or at BOS Library.

### Annex 3: Areas where monthly price data are collected

DISTRICT	AREA: URBAN	AREA: RURAL
1. Butha-Buthe	Butha-Buthe	Malelefiloane Tsime Qholaqhoe Ha Molapo Manamela Qalo Muela Khukhune Ha Selomo Seboche
2. Leribe	Hlotse Maputsoe	Ha Lejone Pitseng Peka Kolonyama
3. Berea	Teya-Teyaneng	Mamathe Mapoteng Makhoroana Sefikeng Khotsi's Ha Rakoto Ha Koali
4. Maseru	Maseru Semonkong	Roma Nazareth Morija Matsieng Mants'ebo Ramabanta
5. Mafeteng	Mafeteng	Van Rooyen's Ts'akholo Kolo Ts'ita's Nek Ramatseliso Motsekuoa Ha Makhakhe Matelile ha Seeiso Mount Tabor Thabana Morena Ha Khobotle Thaba Ts'oeu
6. Mohale's Hoek	Mohale's hoek	Phamong Holy Cross Masemousu

		Mpharane
7. Quthing	Moyeni	A' skop Mount Moorosi Mphaki
8. Qhacha's Nek	Qhacha's Nek	Sehlabathebe Ha Ramatseliso Ha Sekake White hill Ha Mpiti
9. Mokhotlong	Mokhotlong	Tlokoeng Mapholaneng Janteu Linakaneng Tlhanyaku phahameng
10.Thaba-Tseka	Thaba-Tseka	Mantsonyane Sehonghong Mashai katse





Kingdom of Lesotho



**Statistical Report  
No.20:2018**

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
May 2018**



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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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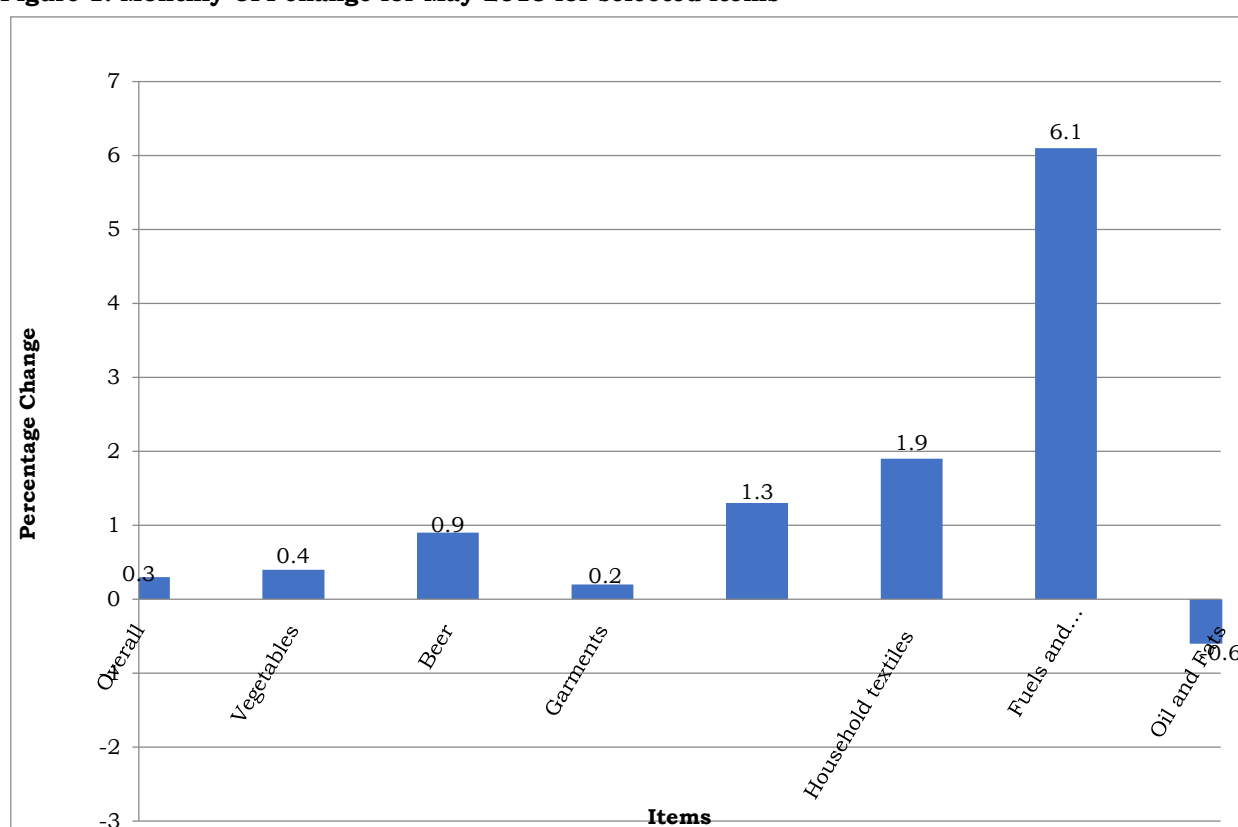
## 1. Introduction

This report presents the Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for May 2018 for Lesotho. The CPI is an indicator that shows changes in the cost of buying a fixed bundle of consumer goods and services as determined for the base period. In this report, CPI is calculated on monthly basis; thus, CPI is calculated comparing the prices of the current month with the prices of the previous month. Prices are collected every month in twelve urban areas and about seventy selected rural areas of Lesotho by personal visits to the outlets. About 40000 price quotations are collected in about 800 outlets for about 350 commodity items.

## 2. Monthly Consumer Price Index

This section covers the monthly price change for Lesotho. As depicted by Figure 1, the overall monthly CPI change for May 2018 is 0.3 percent which shows 0.1 percentage increase from the index level observed in April 2018. The overall CPI measures a change in the index level for all items in May 2018 compared to the index level for all items in April 2018. The observed increase in monthly price indices was recorded for the following classes with their respective percentages: Vegetables with 0.4 percent, Beer with 0.9 percent, Garments with 0.2 percent, Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories with 1.3 percent, Household textiles with 1.9 percent as well as Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment with 6.1 percent. However, the increases in monthly price indices were counteracted by a decline of 0.6 percent for Oil and Fats.

**Figure 1: Monthly CPI change for May 2018 for selected items**



The large monthly increases in the classes mentioned above were observed in the price indices of the following specific commodity items: Lettuce, Garlic, Black Label, Maluti, Boy's Jacket, Girl's Full Dress, Shawls, Minks, Petrol as well as Diesel.

### **3. Annual Inflation Rate**

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 annual inflation rate in this report is computed by comparing the CPI level of May 2018 to that of May 2017. The annual inflation rate is estimated 3.8 percent (see Table 1) which shows no percentage change from the rate observed in April 2018.

The divisions, which showed a significant annual increase in the inflation rate were: Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (4.3 percent), Clothing (1.7 percent), Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas (5.5 percent), Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (3.6 percent), Recreation and culture (4.8 percent) and Miscellaneous goods and services (3.3 percent) (See Table 1).

The following groups had a contribution to the annual increase: Food with 4.2 Percent, Alcohol with 6.5 percent, Clothing with 2.0 percent, Electricity, Gas and other fuels with 8.1 percent, Household textiles with 9.0 percent and Personal care with 4.8 percent (See Table 2).

### **4. Services and Commodities Indices**

Services and commodities (disaggregated into Non-durables, semi durables and durables) indices are presented in this section. The services index is derived by aggregating all the services indices. Non-durables, semi durables and durable indices are calculated by aggregating all the Non-durables, semi durables and durables indices respectively.

The monthly increase was observed with the following percentages; Non-Durables and Services with 0.2 percent, Semi- Durables with 0.4 percent as well as Durables with 0.7 percent. The annual inflation rates were 4.2, 4.2, 2.3 and 1.9 percent for Non-Durables, Durables, Semi-Durables and Services, respectively (see Table 1).

## Annex 1: Tables

**Table 1: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Divisions – May 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		May17	April 18	May 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>103.07</b>	<b>106.67</b>	<b>106.96</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>3.8</b>
01. Food & Non-alcoholic beverages	361.13	103.68	108.14	108.13	0.0	4.3
02. Alcohol and Tobacco	33.31	103.25	108.76	109.59	0.8	6.1
03. Clothing & Footwear	130.57	101.02	102.50	102.72	0.2	1.7
04. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	123.97	105.66	111.23	111.44	0.2	5.5
05. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	84.77	102.99	106.16	106.65	0.5	3.6
06 Health	15.04	100.01	100.17	100.79	0.6	0.8
07. Transport	48.21	100.57	101.55	103.30	1.7	2.7
08 Communications	21.05	100.02	99.18	99.18	0.0	-0.8
09. Recreation and culture	57.08	102.46	106.29	107.35	1.0	4.8
10. Education	42.00	105.11	108.30	108.30	0.0	3.0
11. Restaurants and Hotels	10.30	100.36	102.78	102.98	0.2	2.6
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	72.59	102.24	105.50	105.64	0.1	3.3
<b>Services</b>	<b>200.05</b>	<b>101.81</b>	<b>103.53</b>	<b>103.70</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>Non-durables</b>	<b>549.99</b>	<b>98.15</b>	<b>102.05</b>	<b>102.26</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>4.2</b>
<b>Semi durables</b>	<b>168.56</b>	<b>101.32</b>	<b>103.23</b>	<b>103.63</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Durables</b>	<b>81.40</b>	<b>102.06</b>	<b>105.67</b>	<b>106.40</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>4.2</b>

**Table 2: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups – May 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		May17	April 18	May 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	<b>103.07</b>	<b>106.67</b>	<b>106.96</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>3.8</b>
01.1Food	348.52	103.73	108.14	108.13	0.0	4.2
01.2Non alcoholic beverages	12.61	102.28	107.89	108.22	0.3	5.8
02.1Alcohol	28.28	103.42	109.22	110.18	0.9	6.5
02.2Tobacco	5.03	102.31	106.19	106.26	0.1	3.9
03.1Clothing	90.26	100.84	102.60	102.87	0.3	2.0
03.2Footwear	40.31	101.42	102.27	102.38	0.1	0.9
04.1Actual rentals for housing	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2Imputed rent for housing	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3Maintanance and repair of dwelling	8.03	100.69	101.76	101.67	-0.1	1.0
04.4Water and miscellaneous services relating to dwelling	4.38	102.46	105.00	105.00	0.0	2.5
04.5Electricity, Gas and other fuels	79.33	108.63	117.08	117.41	0.3	8.1
05.1Furniture and furnishings	18.87	102.05	105.39	105.72	0.3	3.6
05.2Household textiles	11.95	112.08	119.92	122.22	1.9	9.0
05.3Houseould appliances	4.56	100.89	103.62	103.73	0.1	2.8
05.4Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.19	100.89	101.17	0.3	1.0
05.5Tools and equipment for house and garden	7.08	100.08	99.99	99.99	0.0	-0.1
05.6Goods and services for routine household maintenance	36.93	101.75	104.36	104.51	0.1	2.7
06.1Medical products, appliances and equipment	7.68	99.88	100.04	100.99	1.0	1.1
06.2Out-patient services	1.89	100.58	101.21	102.23	1.0	1.6
06.3Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1Purchase of vehicles	8.73	100.00	101.83	102.64	0.8	2.6
7.2Operation of personal transport	23.87	101.15	102.41	105.29	2.8	4.1
7.3Transport services	15.60	100.00	100.06	100.63	0.6	0.6
8.1Postal services	0.13	103.29	102.41	102.95	0.5	-0.3
8.2Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	99.08	99.08	0.0	-0.9
9.1Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	42.39	102.96	107.75	108.85	1.0	5.7
9.3Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	0.47	103.59	110.55	110.50	0.0	6.7
9.4Recreational and cultural services	3.22	100.31	100.74	103.12	2.4	2.8
9.5 Newspapers, books and stationery	10.74	101.12	102.19	102.76	0.6	1.6
09.6Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	106.23	114.77	114.77	0.0	8.0
10.2Secondary education	20.19	108.12	111.83	111.83	0.0	3.4
10.3Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1Catering services	7.32	100.50	103.54	103.82	0.3	3.3
11.2Accommodation services	2.98	100.00	100.92	100.91	0.0	0.9
12.1Personal care	38.90	103.50	108.40	108.45	0.0	4.8
12.3Personal effects	7.10	100.00	102.77	102.77	0.0	2.8
12.4Social Protection	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5Insurance	6.31	100.00	100.00	101.24	1.2	1.2
12.6Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7Other services	13.23	100.77	101.47	101.47	0.0	0.7

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – May 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		May17	April 18	May 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	<b>103.07</b>	<b>106.67</b>	<b>106.96</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>3.8</b>
01.1.1Bread and cereals	138.36	102.88	101.02	101.05	0.0	-1.8
01.1.2Meat	49.04	104.94	119.36	119.50	0.1	13.9
01.1.3Fish	6.73	101.44	108.99	109.44	0.4	7.9
01.1.4Milk, cheese and eggs	22.05	103.14	110.14	110.07	-0.1	6.7
01.1.5Oils and fats	43.96	104.30	106.43	105.75	-0.6	1.4
01.1.6Fruit	2.02	101.91	110.23	110.87	0.6	8.8
01.1.7Vegetables	46.40	104.91	118.08	118.59	0.4	13.0
01.1.8Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	22.15	105.17	108.90	108.25	-0.6	2.9
01.1.9Food products n.e.c.	17.82	102.47	106.97	107.05	0.1	4.5
01.2.1Coffee, tea and cocoa	6.41	103.05	110.50	110.64	0.1	7.4
01.2.2Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	6.21	101.49	105.20	105.73	0.5	4.2
02.1.1Spirits	0.67	101.99	105.51	105.75	0.2	3.7
02.1.2Wine	2.18	101.27	103.33	103.65	0.3	2.4
02.1.3Beer	25.42	103.64	109.82	110.86	0.9	7.0
02.2.1Tobacco	5.03	102.31	106.19	106.26	0.1	3.9
03.1.1Clothing materials	0.78	100.00	104.47	104.78	0.3	4.8
03.1.2Garments	80.75	100.92	102.51	102.68	0.2	1.7
03.1.3Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	8.66	100.21	103.20	104.56	1.3	4.3
03.1.4Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.06	101.48	104.14	104.14	0.0	2.6
03.2.1Shoes and other footwear	40.07	101.43	102.27	102.38	0.1	0.9
03.2.2Repair and hire of footwear	0.24	100.00	102.61	102.61	0.0	2.6
04.1.1Actual rentals paid by tenants	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2.1Imputed rentals of owner-occupiers	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3.1Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	4.82	101.15	102.94	102.78	-0.1	1.6
04.3.2Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.1Water supply	3.27	103.29	106.70	106.70	0.0	3.3
04.4.2Refuse collection	0.08	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.3Sewerage services	0.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.4Other services relating to the dwelling	0.83	100.04	100.04	100.04	0.0	0.0
04.5.1Electricity	15.26	103.44	106.99	106.99	0.0	3.4
04.5.2Gas	22.50	106.49	112.22	112.76	0.5	5.9
04.5.3Liquid fuels	28.55	114.46	131.45	131.95	0.4	15.3
04.5.4Solid fuels	28.55	114.46	131.45	131.95	0.4	15.3
05.1.1Furniture and furnishings	18.46	102.07	105.49	105.82	0.3	3.7
05.1.2Carpets and other floor coverings	0.38	100.89	100.99	101.03	0.0	0.1
05.1.3Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.04	100.00	102.46	102.46	0.0	2.5
05.2.1Household textiles	11.95	112.08	119.92	122.22	1.9	9.0
05.3.1Major household appliances whether electric or not	3.94	100.98	104.24	104.22	0.0	3.2

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – May 2018 (cont.)**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		May17	April 18	May 18	M%	Y%
05.3.2Small electric household appliances	0.61	100.32	99.67	100.64	1.0	0.3
05.3.3Repair of household appliances	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
05.4.1Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.19	100.89	101.17	0.3	1.0
05.5.1Major tools and equipment	5.58	100.00	99.77	99.71	-0.1	-0.3
05.5.2Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1.50	100.39	100.80	101.06	0.3	0.7
05.6.1Non-durable household goods	34.07	101.90	104.73	104.89	0.2	2.9
05.6.2Domestic services and home care services	2.86	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.1.1Pharmaceutical products	4.80	99.78	99.90	100.76	0.9	1.0
06.1.2Other medical products	0.61	100.21	101.53	100.87	-0.7	0.7
06.1.3Therapeutic appliances and equipment	2.26	100.00	99.92	101.51	1.6	1.5
06.2.1Medical Services	1.09	101.00	102.09	103.86	1.7	2.8
06.2.2Dental services	0.13	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.2.3Paramedical services	0.67	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.3.1Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.1Motor cars	7.89	100.00	101.96	102.86	0.9	2.9
07.1.3Bicycles	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.4Animal drawn vehicles	0.78	100.00	100.70	100.70	0.0	0.7
07.2.1Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	8.40	101.28	102.60	103.09	0.5	1.8
07.2.2Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	9.39	101.79	101.78	108.03	6.1	6.1
07.2.3Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	3.37	100.00	105.28	107.04	1.7	7.0
07.2.4Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	2.71	100.00	100.49	100.49	0.0	0.5
07.3.2Passenger transport by road	13.12	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.3Passenger transport by air	0.24	100.00	104.09	110.98	6.6	11.0
07.3.4Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.6Other Transport services	2.21	100.00	100.00	103.26	3.3	3.3
8.1.1Postal services	0.13	103.29	102.41	102.95	0.5	-0.3
8.2.1Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3.1Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	99.08	99.08	0.0	-0.9
9.1.1Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	35.84	103.30	109.36	110.66	1.2	7.1
9.1.2Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	5.91	101.06	98.45	98.45	0.0	-2.6
9.1.3Information processing equipment	0.33	102.84	107.18	107.25	0.1	4.3
9.1.5Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.3.1Games, toys and hobbies	0.29	105.83	116.31	116.13	-0.1	9.7
09.3.2Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.3.3Gardens, plants and flowers	0.05	100.00	102.45	103.10	0.6	3.1
09.3.4Pets and related products	0.03	100.00	103.56	103.42	-0.1	3.4
09.3.5Veterinary and other services for pets	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.1Recreational and sport services	0.14	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.2Cultural services	3.06	100.33	100.67	103.18	2.5	2.8
09.4.3Games of chance	0.02	100.00	115.38	115.38	0.0	15.4
09.5.1Books	3.37	100.71	100.54	101.60	1.1	0.9
09.5.2Newspapers and periodicals	0.61	101.25	103.27	106.18	2.8	4.9
09.5.3Miscellaneous printed matter	0.11	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.5.4Stationery and drawing materials	6.66	101.34	102.95	103.07	0.1	1.7
09.6.1Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0



**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – May 2018 (cont.)**

	<b>Weight</b>	<b>May17</b>	<b>April 18</b>	<b>Index numbers May 18</b>	<b>% change M%</b>	<b>% change Y%</b>
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	106.23	114.77	114.77	0.0	8.0
10.2.1Secondary education	20.19	108.12	111.83	111.83	0.0	3.4
10.3.1Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4.1Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5.1Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1.1Restaurants, cafés and the like	7.27	100.51	103.56	103.84	0.3	3.3
11.1.2Canteens	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.2.1Accommodation services	2.98	100.00	100.92	100.91	0.0	0.9
12.1.1Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	29.16	103.89	109.13	109.13	0.0	5.0
12.1.2Electrical appliances for personal care	0.19	100.00	98.81	98.81	0.0	-1.2
12.1.3Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	9.55	102.38	106.36	106.56	0.2	4.1
12.3.1Jewellery, clocks and watches	0.30	100.00	99.88	99.88	0.0	-0.1
12.3.2Other personal effects	6.80	100.00	102.90	102.90	0.0	2.9
12.4.1Social Protection services	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.2Insurance connected with dwelling	0.91	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.3Insurance connected with health	2.37	100.00	100.00	103.30	3.3	3.3
12.5.4Insurance connected with transport	3.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6.2Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7.1Other services n.e.c	13.23	100.77	101.47	101.47	0.0	0.7

## **Annex 2: Explanations and Technical Notes**

The CPI has been rebased and the new reference period is December 2016. The linking factor was estimated and the indices from December 2016 and the months preceding December were multiplied by this factor. The resulting indices were then multiplied by 100/ December Index.

The formula used in calculating the price indices is Modified Laspeyres index formula with elementary price indices being calculated using geometric mean. The officially accepted method of measuring inflation rate in Lesotho is the index for the current month compared with that of the corresponding month in the previous year.

$$\{(I_c/I_p)-1\} \times 100 = \text{Inflation rate}$$

Where:         $I_c$  = index for the current month,  
                   $I_p$  = index for the same month in the previous year.

Bureau of Statistics (BOS) recommends this method over others for estimating the annual inflation rate. This method tends to eliminate any possible seasonal effects, since the indices for the corresponding months are compared. However, it should be borne in mind that inflation rate calculated according to this method fluctuates considerably.

Goods and services are classified according to Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose -International Comparison Programme (COICOP-ICP).

The weights are calculated on the basis of the 2010/11 Household Budget Survey (HBS). The CPI results are published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month of data collection. Additional and more detailed information is also available from the BOS website: [www.bos.gov.ls](http://www.bos.gov.ls), Email address: [economics@bos.gov.ls](mailto:economics@bos.gov.ls) and or at BOS Library.

### Annex 3: Areas where monthly price data are collected

DISTRICT	AREA: URBAN	AREA: RURAL
1. Butha-Buthe	Butha-Buthe	Malelefiloane Tsime Qholaqhoe Ha Molapo Manamela Qalo Muela Khukhune Ha Selomo Seboche
2. Leribe	Hlotse Maputsoe	Ha Lejone Pitseng Peka Kolonyama
3. Berea	Teya-Teyaneng	Mamathe Mapoteng Makhoroana Sefikeng Khotsi's Ha Rakoto Ha Koali
4. Maseru	Maseru Semonkong	Roma Nazareth Moriya Matsieng Mants'ebo Ramabanta
5. Mafeteng	Mafeteng	Van Rooyen's Ts'akholo Kolo Ts'ita's Nek Ramatseliso Motsekuoa Ha Makhakhe Matelile ha Seeiso Mount Tabor Thabana Morena Ha Khobotle Thaba Ts'oeu
6. Mohale's Hoek	Mohale's hoek	Phamong Holy Cross Masemousu Mpharane

7. Quthing	Moyeni	A' skop Mount Moorosi Mphaki
8. Qhacha's Nek	Qhacha's Nek	Sehlabathebe Ha Ramatseliso Ha Sekake White hill Ha Mpiti
9. Mokhotlong	Mokhotlong	Tlokoeng Mapholaneng Janteu Linakaneng Tlhanyaku phahameng
10. Thaba-Tseka	Thaba-Tseka	Mantsonyane Sehonghong Mashai katse



Kingdom of Lesotho



**Statistical Report  
No.25:2018**

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
June 2018**



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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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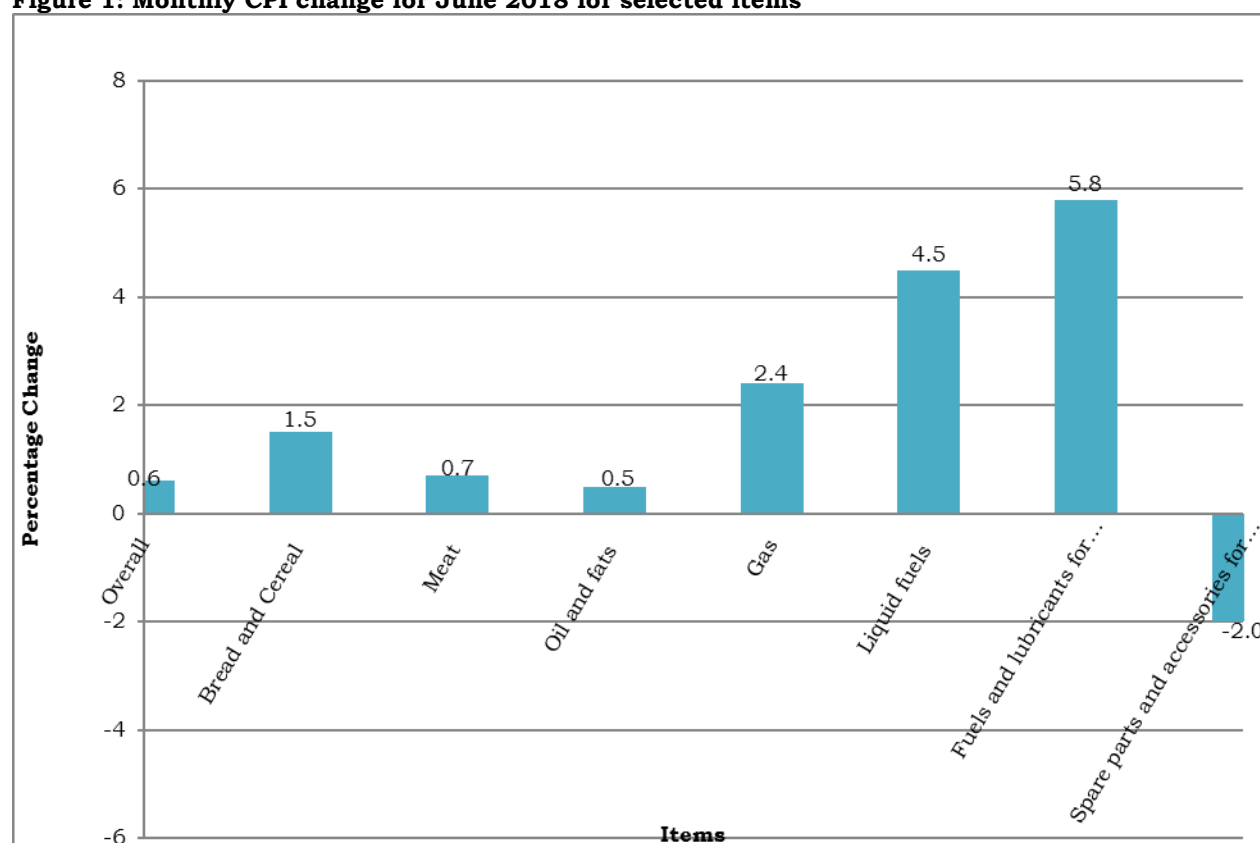
## 1. Introduction

This report presents the Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for June 2018 for Lesotho. The CPI is an indicator that shows changes in the cost of buying a fixed bundle of consumer goods and services as determined for the base period. In this report, CPI is calculated on monthly basis; thus, CPI is calculated comparing the prices of the current month with the prices of the previous month. Prices are collected every month in twelve urban areas and about seventy selected rural areas of Lesotho by personal visits to the outlets. About 40000 price quotations are collected in about 800 outlets for about 350 commodity items.

## 2. Monthly Consumer Price Index

This section covers the monthly price change for Lesotho. As depicted by Figure 1, the overall monthly CPI change for June 2018 is 0.6 percent which shows 0.3percent increase from the index level observed in May 2018. The overall CPI measures a change in the index level for all items in June 2018 compared to the index level for all items in May 2018. The observed increase in monthly price indices was recorded for the following classes with their respective percentages: Bread and Cereal with 1.5 percent, Meat with 0.7 percent, Oil and fats with 0.5 percent, Gas 2.4 Liquid fuels with 4.5percent, as well as Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment with 5.8 percent. However, the increases in monthly price indices were counteracted by a decline of 2.0 percent for Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment.

**Figure 1: Monthly CPI change for June 2018 for selected items**



The large monthly increases in the classes mentioned above were observed in the price indices of the following specific commodity items: Cake Pastry, Maize Meal, Bacon, Beef, Butter, Olive Oil, Gas, Paraffin, Petrol as well as Diesel.

### **3. Annual Inflation Rate**

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 annual inflation rate in this report is computed by comparing the CPI level of June 2018 to that of June 2017. The annual inflation rate is estimated 2.9 percent (see Table 1) which shows 0.9 percentage change from the rate observed in May 2018.

The divisions, which showed a significant annual increase in the inflation rate were: Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (2.8 percent), Alcohol and Tobacco (5.9 percent), Clothing and footwear (1.4 percent), Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas (5.2) Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (1,7 percent), Transport (5.6 percent)

The following groups had a contribution to the annual increase: Food with 2.7 Percent, Alcohol with 6.4 percent, Clothing with 1.7 percent, Electricity, Gas and other fuels with 7.8 percent, Operation of personal transport with 10.0 percent as well as Personal care with 2.7percent (See Table 2).

### **4. Services and Commodities Indices**

Services and commodities (disaggregated into Non-durables, semi durables and durables) indices are presented in this section. The services index is derived by aggregating all the services indices. Non-durables, semi durables and durable indices are calculated by aggregating all the Non-durables, semi durables and durables indices respectively.

The monthly increase was observed with the following percentages; Services with 0.1 percent, Non-Durables with 0.8 percent, Semi- Durables with no change while Durables declined by -0.1 percent. The annual inflation rates were 3.2, 2.0, 1.6 and 1.4 percent for Non-Durables, Durables, Services and Semi-Durables respectively (see Table 1).



## Annex 1: Tables

**Table 1: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Divisions – June 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		June17	May 18	June 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>103.40</b>	<b>105.81</b>	<b>106.39</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>2.9</b>
01. Food &Non-alcoholic beverages	361.13	104.30	106.40	107.20	0.8	2.8
02. Alcohol and Tobacco	33.31	103.43	109.16	109.53	0.3	5.9
03. Clothing &Footwear	130.57	100.99	102.38	102.40	0.0	1.4
04. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	123.97	105.83	109.49	111.29	1.6	5.2
05. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	84.77	103.24	104.84	104.98	0.1	1.7
06 Health	15.04	99.96	100.78	100.80	0.0	0.8
07. Transport	48.21	100.21	104.67	105.81	1.1	5.6
08 Communications	21.05	100.02	99.18	99.18	0.0	-0.8
09. Recreation and culture	57.08	103.05	105.49	105.32	-0.2	2.2
10. Education	42.00	105.62	109.54	109.54	0.0	3.7
11. Restaurants and Hotels	10.30	100.85	102.95	103.26	0.3	2.4
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	72.59	102.53	104.51	104.48	0.0	1.9
<b>Services</b>	<b>200.05</b>	<b>102.03</b>	<b>103.56</b>	<b>103.62</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>
<b>Non-durables</b>	<b>549.99</b>	<b>98.55</b>	<b>100.97</b>	<b>101.74</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>3.2</b>
<b>Semi durables</b>	<b>168.56</b>	<b>101.33</b>	<b>102.72</b>	<b>102.70</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.4</b>
<b>Durables</b>	<b>81.40</b>	<b>102.62</b>	<b>104.78</b>	<b>104.64</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>2.0</b>

**Table 2: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups – June 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		June17	May 18	June18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	<b>103.40</b>	<b>105.81</b>	<b>106.39</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>2.9</b>
01.1Food	348.52	104.34	106.35	107.17	0.8	2.7
01.2Non alcoholic beverages	12.61	103.14	107.82	108.21	0.4	4.9
02.1Alcohol	28.28	103.48	109.74	110.11	0.3	6.4
02.2Tobacco	5.03	103.13	105.88	106.28	0.4	3.1
03.1Clothing	90.26	100.73	102.58	102.45	-0.1	1.7
03.2Footwear	40.31	101.58	101.93	102.26	0.3	0.7
04.1Actual rentals for housing	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2Imputed rent for housing	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3Maintanance and repair of dwelling	8.03	100.65	101.43	101.45	0.0	0.8
04.4Water and miscellaneous services relating to dwelling	4.38	101.21	101.21	101.21	0.0	0.0
04.5Electricity, Gas and other fuels	79.33	108.96	114.60	117.41	2.5	7.8
05.1Furniture and furnishings	18.87	102.42	104.54	104.36	-0.2	1.9
05.2Household textiles	11.95	112.11	113.75	114.91	1.0	2.5
05.3Houseould appliances	4.56	101.27	102.44	102.69	0.2	1.4
05.4Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.22	101.11	101.15	0.0	0.9
05.5Tools and equipment for house and garden	7.08	100.12	99.98	99.88	-0.1	-0.2
05.6Goods and services for routine household maintenance	36.93	102.07	103.89	103.91	0.0	1.8
06.1Medical products, appliances and equipment	7.68	99.78	100.98	100.85	-0.1	1.1
06.2Out-patient services	1.89	100.58	102.23	102.89	0.7	2.3
06.3Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1Purchase of vehicles	8.73	100.38	102.64	102.88	0.2	2.5
7.2Operation of personal transport	23.87	100.28	108.06	110.28	2.1	10.0
7.3Transport services	15.60	100.00	100.63	100.63	0.0	0.6
8.1Postal services	0.13	103.12	102.95	102.95	0.0	-0.2
8.2Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	99.08	99.08	0.0	-0.9
9.1Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	42.39	103.73	106.41	106.15	-0.2	2.3
9.3Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	0.47	104.82	109.47	110.58	1.0	5.5
9.4Recreational and cultural services	3.22	100.36	102.80	102.80	0.0	2.4
9.5 Newspapers, books and stationery	10.74	101.13	102.62	102.71	0.1	1.6
09.6Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	108.03	117.44	117.44	0.0	8.7
10.2Secondary education	20.19	108.58	112.59	112.59	0.0	3.7
10.3Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	105.19	105.19	0.0	3.5
10.5Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1Catering services	7.32	101.10	103.78	104.22	0.4	3.1
11.2Accommodation services	2.98	100.23	100.91	100.91	0.0	0.7
12.1Personal care	38.90	104.03	106.79	106.81	0.0	2.7
12.3Personal effects	7.10	100.00	102.77	102.34	-0.4	2.3
12.4Social Protection	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5Insurance	6.31	100.00	101.24	101.24	0.0	1.2
12.6Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	102.71	102.71	0.0	0.0
12.7Other services	13.23	100.77	101.47	101.47	0.0	0.7

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – June 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers		June 18	% change	
		June 17	May18		M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	<b>103.40</b>	<b>105.81</b>	<b>106.39</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>2.9</b>
01.1.1Bread and cereals	138.36	103.24	99.26	100.74	1.5	-2.4
01.1.2Meat	49.04	106.29	117.08	117.91	0.7	10.9
01.1.3Fish	6.73	101.58	109.34	110.17	0.8	8.5
01.1.4Milk, cheese and eggs	22.05	103.92	109.16	109.52	0.3	5.4
01.1.5Oils and fats	43.96	104.26	103.17	103.69	0.5	-0.5
01.1.6Fruit	2.02	101.92	110.39	111.58	1.1	9.5
01.1.7Vegetables	46.40	106.04	117.37	117.24	-0.1	10.6
01.1.8Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	22.15	106.27	106.22	106.50	0.3	0.2
01.1.9Food products n.e.c.	17.82	102.73	106.04	106.13	0.1	3.3
01.2.1Coffee, tea and cocoa	6.41	104.26	110.13	110.81	0.6	6.3
01.2.2Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	6.21	101.99	105.43	105.53	0.1	3.5
02.1.1Spirits	0.67	102.09	105.05	105.24	0.2	3.1
02.1.2Wine	2.18	101.20	103.56	104.23	0.6	3.0
02.1.3Beer	25.42	103.71	110.39	110.74	0.3	6.8
02.2.1Tobacco	5.03	103.13	105.88	106.28	0.4	3.1
03.1.1Clothing materials	0.78	100.00	104.78	104.78	0.0	4.8
03.1.2Garments	80.75	100.79	102.35	102.23	-0.1	1.4
03.1.3Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	8.66	100.30	104.52	104.32	-0.2	4.0
03.1.4Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.06	101.48	102.62	104.07	1.4	2.6
03.2.1Shoes and other footwear	40.07	101.59	101.93	102.26	0.3	0.7
03.2.2Repair and hire of footwear	0.24	100.00	102.61	102.61	0.0	2.6
04.1.1Actual rentals paid by tenants	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2.1Imputed rentals of owner-occupiers	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3.1Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	4.82	101.09	102.39	102.42	0.0	1.3
04.3.2Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.1Water supply	3.27	103.29	103.29	103.29	0.0	0.0
04.4.2Refuse collection	0.08	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.3Sewerage services	0.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.4Other services relating to the dwelling	0.83	93.38	93.38	93.38	0.0	0.0
04.5.1Electricity	15.26	103.44	103.44	103.44	0.0	0.0
04.5.2Gas	22.50	106.75	110.92	113.54	2.4	6.4
04.5.3Liquid fuels	28.55	115.17	127.51	133.25	4.5	15.7
04.5.4Solid fuels	28.55	115.17	127.51	133.25	4.5	15.7
05.1.1Furniture and furnishings	18.46	102.46	104.61	104.43	-0.2	1.9
05.1.2Carpets and other floor coverings	0.38	100.51	101.03	101.01	0.0	0.5
05.1.3Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.04	100.00	102.46	102.46	0.0	2.5
05.2.1Household textiles	11.95	112.11	113.75	114.91	1.0	2.5
05.3.1Major household appliances whether electric or not	3.94	101.48	102.74	103.04	0.3	1.5

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – June 2018 (cont.)**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		June17	May 18	June 18	M%	Y%
05.3.2Small electric household appliances	0.61	99.97	100.51	100.41	-0.1	0.4
05.3.3Repair of household appliances	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
05.4.1Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.22	101.11	101.15	0.0	0.9
05.5.1Major tools and equipment	5.58	100.02	99.71	99.57	-0.1	-0.5
05.5.2Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1.50	100.47	101.02	101.03	0.0	0.6
05.6.1Non-durable household goods	34.07	102.24	104.22	104.24	0.0	2.0
05.6.2Domestic services and home care services	2.86	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.1.1Pharmaceutical products	4.80	99.63	100.76	100.55	-0.2	0.9
06.1.2Other medical products	0.61	100.21	100.75	100.80	0.0	0.6
06.1.3Therapeutic appliances and equipment	2.26	100.00	101.51	101.51	0.0	1.5
06.2.1Medical Services	1.09	101.00	103.86	105.01	1.1	4.0
06.2.2Dental services	0.13	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.2.3Paramedical services	0.67	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.3.1Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.1Motor cars	7.89	100.42	102.86	103.12	0.3	2.7
07.1.3Bicycles	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.4Animal drawn vehicles	0.78	100.00	100.70	100.70	0.0	0.7
07.2.1Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	8.40	101.80	102.31	100.26	-2.0	-1.5
07.2.2Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	9.39	98.34	115.76	122.47	5.8	24.5
07.2.3Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	3.37	101.76	107.04	109.12	1.9	7.2
07.2.4Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	2.71	100.47	100.49	100.49	0.0	0.0
07.3.2Passenger transport by road	13.12	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.3Passenger transport by air	0.24	100.00	110.98	110.98	0.0	11.0
07.3.4Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.6Other Transport services	2.21	100.00	103.26	103.26	0.0	3.3
8.1.1Postal services	0.13	103.12	102.95	102.95	0.0	-0.2
8.2.1Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3.1Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	99.08	99.08	0.0	-0.9
9.1.1Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	35.84	104.22	107.88	107.52	-0.3	3.2
9.1.2Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	5.91	101.06	97.86	97.86	0.0	-3.2
9.1.3Information processing equipment	0.33	102.84	105.92	111.25	5.0	8.2
9.1.5Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.3.1Games, toys and hobbies	0.29	107.29	114.47	116.30	1.6	8.4
09.3.2Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.3.3Gardens, plants and flowers	0.05	100.00	103.10	103.02	-0.1	3.0
09.3.4Pets and related products	0.03	104.66	103.42	103.17	-0.2	-1.4
09.3.5Veterinary and other services for pets	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.1Recreational and sport services	0.14	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.2Cultural services	3.06	100.33	102.83	102.83	0.0	2.5
09.4.3Games of chance	0.02	107.42	115.38	115.38	0.0	7.4
09.5.1Books	3.37	100.42	101.57	101.68	0.1	1.2
09.5.2Newspapers and periodicals	0.61	101.34	106.18	108.02	1.7	6.6
09.5.3Miscellaneous printed matter	0.11	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.5.4Stationery and drawing materials	6.66	101.49	102.87	102.78	-0.1	1.3
09.6.1Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – June 2018 (cont.)**

		Index numbers			% change	
	Weight	June17	May 18	June 18	M%	Y%
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	108.03	117.44	117.44	0.0	8.7
10.2.1Secondary education	20.19	108.58	112.59	112.59	0.0	3.7
10.3.1Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4.1Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	105.19	105.19	0.0	3.5
10.5.1Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1.1Restaurants, caf��s and the like	7.27	101.11	103.81	104.24	0.4	3.1
11.1.2Canteens	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.2.1Accommodation services	2.98	100.23	100.91	100.91	0.0	0.7
12.1.1Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	29.16	104.42	107.19	107.21	0.0	2.7
12.1.2Electrical appliances for personal care	0.19	100.00	98.81	98.81	0.0	-1.2
12.1.3Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	9.55	102.90	105.73	105.75	0.0	2.8
12.3.1Jewellery, clocks and watches	0.30	100.00	99.88	100.19	0.3	0.2
12.3.2Other personal effects	6.80	100.00	102.90	102.43	-0.5	2.4
12.4.1Social Protection services	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.2Insurance connected with dwelling	0.91	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.3Insurance connected with health	2.37	100.00	103.30	103.30	0.0	3.3
12.5.4Insurance connected with transport	3.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6.2Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	102.71	102.71	0.0	0.0
12.7.1Other services n.e.c	13.23	100.77	101.47	101.47	0.0	0.7

## **Annex 2: Explanations and Technical Notes**

The CPI has been rebased and the new reference period is December 2016. The linking factor was estimated and the indices from December 2016 and the months preceding December were multiplied by this factor. The resulting indices were then multiplied by 100/ December Index.

The formula used in calculating the price indices is Modified Laspeyres index formula with elementary price indices being calculated using geometric mean. The officially accepted method of measuring inflation rate in Lesotho is the index for the current month compared with that of the corresponding month in the previous year.

$$\{(I_c/I_p)-1\} \times 100 = \text{Inflation rate}$$

Where:         $I_c$  = index for the current month,  
                   $I_p$  = index for the same month in the previous year.

Bureau of Statistics (BOS) recommends this method over others for estimating the annual inflation rate. This method tends to eliminate any possible seasonal effects, since the indices for the corresponding months are compared. However, it should be borne in mind that inflation rate calculated according to this method fluctuates considerably.

Goods and services are classified according to Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose -International Comparison Programme (COICOP-ICP).

The weights are calculated on the basis of the 2010/11 Household Budget Survey (HBS). The CPI results are published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month of data collection. Additional and more detailed information is also available from the BOS website: [www.bos.gov.ls](http://www.bos.gov.ls), Email address: [economics@bos.gov.ls](mailto:economics@bos.gov.ls) and or at BOS Library.

### Annex 3: Areas where monthly price data are collected

DISTRICT	AREA: URBAN	AREA: RURAL
1. Butha-Buthe	Butha-Buthe	Malelefiloane Tsime Qholaqhoe Ha Molapo Manamela Qalo Muela Khukhune Ha Selomo Seboche
2. Leribe	Hlotse Maputsoe	Ha Lejone Pitseng Peka Kolonyama
3. Berea	Teya-Teyaneng	Mamathe Mapoteng Makhoroana Sefikeng Khotsi's Ha Rakoto Ha Koali
4. Maseru	Maseru Semonkong	Roma Nazareth Moriya Matsieng Mants'ebo Ramabanta
5. Mafeteng	Mafeteng	Van Rooyen's Ts'akholo Kolo Ts'ita's Nek Ramatseliso Motsekuoa Ha Makhakhe Matelile ha Seeiso Mount Tabor Thabana Morena Ha Khobotle Thaba Ts'oeu
6. Mohale's Hoek	Mohale's hoek	Phamong Holy Cross Masemousu

		Mpharane
7. Quthing	Moyeni	A' skop Mount Moorosi Mphaki
8. Qhacha's Nek	Qhacha's Nek	Sehlabathebe Ha Ramatseliso Ha Sekake White hill Ha Mpiti
9. Mokhotlong	Mokhotlong	Tlokoeng Mapholaneng Janteu Linakaneng Tlhanyaku phahameng
10.Thaba-Tseka	Thaba-Tseka	Mantsonyane Sehonghong Mashai katse





Kingdom of Lesotho



**Statistical Report  
No.27:2018**

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
July 2018**



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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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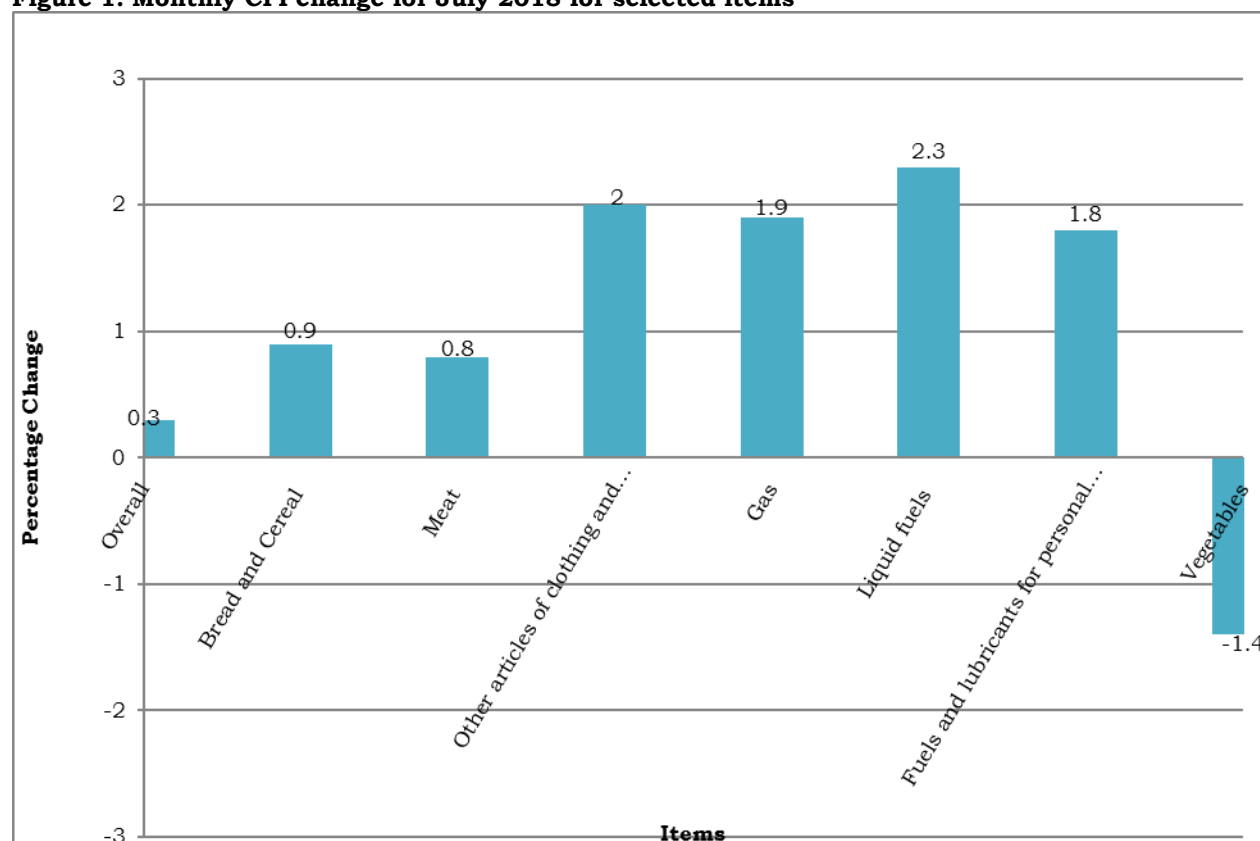
## 1. Introduction

This report presents the Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for July 2018 for Lesotho. The CPI is an indicator that shows changes in the cost of buying a fixed bundle of consumer goods and services as determined for the base period. In this report, CPI is calculated on monthly basis; thus, CPI is calculated comparing the prices of the current month with the prices of the previous month. Prices are collected every month in twelve urban areas and about seventy selected rural areas of Lesotho by personal visits to the outlets. About 40000 price quotations are collected in about 800 outlets for about 350 commodity items.

## 2. Monthly Consumer Price Index

This section covers the monthly price change for Lesotho. As depicted by Figure 1, the overall monthly CPI change for July 2018 is 0.3 percent which shows 0.3 percent decrease from the index level observed in June 2018. The overall CPI measures a change in the index level for all items in July 2018 compared to the index level for all items in June 2018. The observed increase in monthly price indices was recorded for the following classes with their respective percentages: Bread and Cereal with 0.9 percent, Meat with 0.8 percent, Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories with 2.0, Gas with 1.9 percent, Liquid fuels with 2.3 percent, as well as Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment with 1.8 percent. However, the increases in monthly price indices were counteracted by a decline of 1.4 percent for Vegetables.

**Figure 1: Monthly CPI change for July 2018 for selected items**



The large monthly increases in the classes mentioned above were observed in the price indices of the following specific commodity items: Maize Meal, Cake Pastry, Dried, salted, or smoked meat, Offal, Victoria blankets, Other Basotho blankets, Gas, Paraffin, Petrol as well as Diesel.

### **3. Annual Inflation Rate**

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 annual inflation rate in this report is computed by comparing the CPI level of July 2018 to that of July 2017. The annual inflation rate is estimated 4.1 percent (see Table1) which shows 0.1 percentage change from the rate observed in June 2018.

The divisions, which showed a significant annual increase in the inflation rate were: Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (4.4 percent), Clothing and footwear (1.7 percent), Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas (8.3 percent), Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (3.4 percent), Transport (5.5 percent) and Recreation and culture (4.1 percent).

The following groups had a contribution to the annual increase: Food with 4.3 Percent, Alcohol with 6.4 percent, Clothing with 2.0 percent, Electricity, Gas and other fuels with 12.4 percent, Operation of personal transport with 10.2 percent, as well as Personal care with 3.5 percent (See Table 2).

### **4. Services and Commodities Indices**

Services and commodities (disaggregated into Non-durables, semi durables and durables) indices are presented in this section. The services index is derived by aggregating all the services indices. Non-durables, semi durables and durable indices are calculated by aggregating all the Non-durables, semi durables and durables indices respectively.

The monthly increase was observed with the following percentages; Non-Durables with 0.4 percent, Semi- Durables with 0.2 percent, Durables with 0.1 percent while services declined by 0.1. The annual inflation rates were 4.6, 3.4, 2.3 and 1.5 percent for Non-Durables, Durables, Semi-Durables and Services respectively (see Table 1).

## Annex 1: Tables

**Table 1: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Divisions – July 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		July17	June 18	July 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	<b>103.60</b>	<b>107.55</b>	<b>107.87</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>4.1</b>
01. Food &Non-alcoholic beverages	361.13	104.75	108.96	109.30	0.3	4.4
02. Alcohol and Tobacco	33.31	103.80	109.96	109.94	0.0	5.9
03. Clothing &Footwear	130.57	101.17	102.74	102.92	0.2	1.7
04. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	123.97	105.62	113.29	114.42	1.0	8.3
05. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	84.77	103.41	106.80	106.93	0.1	3.4
06 Health	15.04	100.12	100.80	100.90	0.1	0.8
07. Transport	48.21	99.28	104.35	104.78	0.4	5.5
08 Communications	21.05	100.02	99.18	99.18	0.0	-0.8
09. Recreation and culture	57.08	103.18	107.18	107.41	0.2	4.1
10. Education	42.00	106.09	108.30	108.30	0.0	2.1
11. Restaurants and Hotels	10.30	101.04	103.29	103.39	0.1	2.3
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	72.59	102.83	105.61	105.42	-0.2	2.5
<b>Services</b>	<b>200.05</b>	<b>102.19</b>	<b>103.76</b>	<b>103.67</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Non-durables</b>	<b>549.99</b>	<b>98.82</b>	<b>103.04</b>	<b>103.40</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Semi durables</b>	<b>168.56</b>	<b>101.51</b>	<b>103.62</b>	<b>103.87</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Durables</b>	<b>81.40</b>	<b>102.81</b>	<b>106.25</b>	<b>106.35</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>3.4</b>

**Table 2: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups – July 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		July17	June 18	July17	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	<b>103.60</b>	<b>107.55</b>	<b>107.87</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>4.1</b>
01.1Food	348.52	104.78	108.97	109.32	0.3	4.3
01.2Non alcoholic beverages	12.61	103.91	108.62	108.92	0.3	4.8
02.1Alcohol	28.28	103.81	110.55	110.49	-0.1	6.4
02.2Tobacco	5.03	103.71	106.66	106.87	0.2	3.0
03.1Clothing	90.26	100.85	102.75	102.89	0.1	2.0
03.2Footwear	40.31	101.88	102.71	103.00	0.3	1.1
04.1Actual rentals for housing	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2Imputed rent for housing	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3Maintanance and repair of dwelling	8.03	100.69	101.68	101.69	0.0	1.0
04.4Water and miscellaneous services relating to dwelling	4.38	101.21	105.00	105.00	0.0	3.7
04.5Electricity, Gas and other fuels	79.33	108.63	120.30	122.06	1.5	12.4
05.1Furniture and furnishings	18.87	102.42	105.54	105.23	-0.3	2.7
05.2Household textiles	11.95	112.14	123.48	124.47	0.8	11.0
05.3Houseould appliances	4.56	102.10	103.98	104.08	0.1	1.9
05.4Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.33	101.22	101.18	0.0	0.8
05.5Tools and equipment for house and garden	7.08	100.13	99.88	99.99	0.1	-0.1
05.6Goods and services for routine household maintenance	36.93	102.33	104.53	104.64	0.1	2.3
06.1Medical products, appliances and equipment	7.68	100.10	100.86	101.05	0.2	0.9
06.2Out-patient services	1.89	100.58	102.89	102.89	0.0	2.3
06.3Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1Purchase of vehicles	8.73	100.95	102.88	102.88	0.0	1.9
7.2Operation of personal transport	23.87	98.19	107.33	108.18	0.8	10.2
7.3Transport services	15.60	100.00	100.63	100.63	0.0	0.6
8.1Postal services	0.13	102.87	102.95	102.95	0.0	0.1
8.2Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	99.08	99.08	0.0	-0.9
9.1Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	42.39	103.89	108.58	108.89	0.3	4.8
9.3Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	0.47	105.75	111.62	111.50	-0.1	5.4
9.4Recreational and cultural services	3.22	100.41	103.12	103.43	0.3	3.0
9.5 Newspapers, books and stationery	10.74	101.15	102.84	102.76	-0.1	1.6
09.6Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	109.62	114.77	114.77	0.0	4.7
10.2Secondary education	20.19	109.05	111.83	111.83	0.0	2.6
10.3Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1Catering services	7.32	101.27	104.25	104.40	0.1	3.1
11.2Accommodation services	2.98	100.47	100.91	100.91	0.0	0.4
12.1Personal care	38.90	104.31	108.47	107.98	-0.5	3.5
12.3Personal effects	7.10	101.58	102.34	103.11	0.8	1.5
12.4Social Protection	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5Insurance	6.31	100.00	101.24	101.24	0.0	1.2
12.6Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7Other services	13.23	100.77	101.47	101.47	0.0	0.7

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – July 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers		July17	% change	
		July17	June 18		M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	<b>103.60</b>	<b>107.55</b>	<b>107.87</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>4.1</b>
01.1.1Bread and cereals	138.36	103.39	102.57	103.49	0.9	0.1
01.1.2Meat	49.04	106.99	120.35	121.28	0.8	13.4
01.1.3Fish	6.73	101.71	110.27	110.54	0.3	8.7
01.1.4Milk, cheese and eggs	22.05	104.54	110.45	110.68	0.2	5.9
01.1.5Oils and fats	43.96	103.88	106.29	106.51	0.2	2.5
01.1.6Fruit	2.02	102.23	112.06	112.24	0.2	9.8
01.1.7Vegetables	46.40	107.68	118.46	116.78	-1.4	8.4
01.1.8Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	22.15	107.10	108.53	108.48	0.0	1.3
01.1.9Food products n.e.c.	17.82	103.00	107.14	107.70	0.5	4.6
01.2.1Coffee, tea and cocoa	6.41	105.58	111.33	111.52	0.2	5.6
01.2.2Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	6.21	102.18	105.83	106.22	0.4	4.0
02.1.1Spirits	0.67	102.40	105.94	105.99	0.0	3.5
02.1.2Wine	2.18	101.32	104.31	104.03	-0.3	2.7
02.1.3Beer	25.42	104.06	111.21	111.16	0.0	6.8
02.2.1Tobacco	5.03	103.71	106.66	106.87	0.2	3.0
03.1.1Clothing materials	0.78	100.00	104.78	106.18	1.3	6.2
03.1.2Garments	80.75	100.91	102.55	102.47	-0.1	1.5
03.1.3Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	8.66	100.37	104.36	106.43	2.0	6.0
03.1.4Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.06	101.48	105.62	105.62	0.0	4.1
03.2.1Shoes and other footwear	40.07	101.90	102.71	103.00	0.3	1.1
03.2.2Repair and hire of footwear	0.24	100.00	102.61	102.61	0.0	2.6
04.1.1Actual rentals paid by tenants	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2.1Imputed rentals of owner-occupiers	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3.1Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	4.82	101.15	102.81	102.82	0.0	1.7
04.3.2Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.1Water supply	3.27	103.29	106.70	106.70	0.0	3.3
04.4.2Refuse collection	0.08	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.3Sewerage services	0.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.4Other services relating to the dwelling	0.83	93.38	100.04	100.04	0.0	7.1
04.5.1Electricity	15.26	103.44	106.99	106.99	0.0	3.4
04.5.2Gas	22.50	106.90	115.42	117.64	1.9	10.0
04.5.3Liquid fuels	28.55	114.12	137.90	141.04	2.3	23.6
04.5.4Solid fuels	28.55	114.12	137.90	141.04	2.3	23.6
05.1.1Furniture and furnishings	18.46	102.47	105.64	105.32	-0.3	2.8
05.1.2Carpets and other floor coverings	0.38	100.51	101.01	101.00	0.0	0.5
05.1.3Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.04	100.00	102.46	102.46	0.0	2.5
05.2.1Household textiles	11.95	112.14	123.48	124.47	0.8	11.0
05.3.1Major household appliances whether electric or not	3.94	102.45	104.52	104.64	0.1	2.1

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) – July 2018**

	Weight	July17	Index numbers		% change	
			June 18	July17	M%	Y%
05.3.2Small electric household appliances	0.61	99.93	100.53	100.55	0.0	0.6
05.3.3Repair of household appliances	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
05.4.1Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.33	101.22	101.18	0.0	0.8
05.5.1Major tools and equipment	5.58	100.02	99.57	99.66	0.1	-0.4
05.5.2Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1.50	100.54	101.08	101.23	0.2	0.7
05.6.1Non-durable household goods	34.07	102.53	104.91	105.03	0.1	2.4
05.6.2Domestic services and home care services	2.86	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.1.1Pharmaceutical products	4.80	100.14	100.55	100.84	0.3	0.7
06.1.2Other medical products	0.61	100.20	100.91	100.93	0.0	0.7
06.1.3Therapeutic appliances and equipment	2.26	100.00	101.51	101.51	0.0	1.5
06.2.1Medical Services	1.09	101.00	105.01	105.01	0.0	4.0
06.2.2Dental services	0.13	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.2.3Paramedical services	0.67	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.3.1Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.1Motor cars	7.89	100.98	103.12	103.12	0.0	2.1
07.1.3Bicycles	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.4Animal drawn vehicles	0.78	100.70	100.70	100.70	0.0	0.0
07.2.1Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	8.40	101.26	101.03	101.23	0.2	0.0
07.2.2Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	9.39	93.30	114.29	116.30	1.8	24.7
07.2.3Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	3.37	102.34	109.12	109.12	0.0	6.6
07.2.4Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	2.71	100.47	100.49	100.49	0.0	0.0
07.3.2Passenger transport by road	13.12	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.3Passenger transport by air	0.24	100.00	110.98	110.98	0.0	11.0
07.3.4Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.6Other Transport services	2.21	100.00	103.26	103.26	0.0	3.3
8.1.1Postal services	0.13	102.87	102.95	102.95	0.0	0.1
8.2.1Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3.1Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	99.08	99.08	0.0	-0.9
9.1.1Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	35.84	104.41	110.29	110.38	0.1	5.7
9.1.2Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	5.91	101.06	98.45	100.03	1.6	-1.0
9.1.3Information processing equipment	0.33	102.84	112.64	114.61	1.7	11.4
9.1.5Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.3.1Games, toys and hobbies	0.29	108.80	118.00	117.76	-0.2	8.2
09.3.2Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.3.3Gardens, plants and flowers	0.05	100.00	103.02	103.62	0.6	3.6
09.3.4Pets and related products	0.03	104.66	103.17	102.67	-0.5	-1.9
09.3.5Veterinary and other services for pets	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.1Recreational and sport services	0.14	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.2Cultural services	3.06	100.33	103.18	103.50	0.3	3.2
09.4.3Games of chance	0.02	115.38	115.38	115.38	0.0	0.0
09.5.1Books	3.37	100.33	101.71	101.49	-0.2	1.2
09.5.2Newspapers and periodicals	0.61	101.88	108.02	107.28	-0.7	5.3
09.5.3Miscellaneous printed matter	0.11	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.5.4Stationery and drawing materials	6.66	101.52	102.98	103.04	0.0	1.5
09.6.1Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0



**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) – July 2018**

	<b>Weight</b>	<b>July17</b>	<b>June 18</b>	<b>Index numbers July17</b>	<b>M%</b>	<b>% change Y%</b>
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	109.62	114.77	114.77	0.0	4.7
10.2.1Secondary education	20.19	109.05	111.83	111.83	0.0	2.6
10.3.1Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4.1Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5.1Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1.1Restaurants, caf��s and the like	7.27	101.28	104.28	104.43	0.1	3.1
11.1.2Canteens	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.2.1Accommodation services	2.98	100.47	100.91	100.91	0.0	0.4
12.1.1Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	29.16	104.70	109.16	108.46	-0.6	3.6
12.1.2Electrical appliances for personal care	0.19	100.00	98.81	98.81	0.0	-1.2
12.1.3Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	9.55	103.19	106.58	106.71	0.1	3.4
12.3.1Jewellery, clocks and watches	0.30	100.00	100.19	100.19	0.0	0.2
12.3.2Other personal effects	6.80	101.65	102.43	103.24	0.8	1.6
12.4.1Social Protection services	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.2Insurance connected with dwelling	0.91	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.3Insurance connected with health	2.37	100.00	103.30	103.30	0.0	3.3
12.5.4Insurance connected with transport	3.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6.2Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7.1Other services n.e.c	13.23	100.77	101.47	101.47	0.0	0.7

## **Annex 2: Explanations and Technical Notes**

The CPI has been rebased and the new reference period is December 2016. The linking factor was estimated and the indices from December 2016 and the months preceding December were multiplied by this factor. The resulting indices were then multiplied by 100/ December Index.

The formula used in calculating the price indices is Modified Laspeyres index formula with elementary price indices being calculated using geometric mean. The officially accepted method of measuring inflation rate in Lesotho is the index for the current month compared with that of the corresponding month in the previous year.

$$\{(I_c/I_p)-1\} \times 100 = \text{Inflation rate}$$

Where:         $I_c$  = index for the current month,  
                   $I_p$  = index for the same month in the previous year.

Bureau of Statistics (BOS) recommends this method over others for estimating the annual inflation rate. This method tends to eliminate any possible seasonal effects, since the indices for the corresponding months are compared. However, it should be borne in mind that inflation rate calculated according to this method fluctuates considerably.

Goods and services are classified according to Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose -International Comparison Programme (COICOP-ICP).

The weights are calculated on the basis of the 2010/11 Household Budget Survey (HBS). The CPI results are published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month of data collection. Additional and more detailed information is also available from the BOS website: [www.bos.gov.ls](http://www.bos.gov.ls), Email address: [economics@bos.gov.ls](mailto:economics@bos.gov.ls) and or at BOS Library.

### Annex 3: Areas where monthly price data are collected

DISTRICT	AREA: URBAN	AREA: RURAL
1. Butha-Buthe	Butha-Buthe	Malelefiloane Tsime Qholaqhoe Ha Molapo Manamela Qalo Muela Khukhune Ha Selomo Seboche
2. Leribe	Hlotse Maputsoe	Ha Lejone Pitseng Peka Kolonyama
3. Berea	Teya-Teyaneng	Mamathe Khotsi's Mapoteng Makhoroana Sefikeng Ha Rakoto Ha Koali Ha senekal
4. Maseru	Maseru Semonkong	Roma Nazareth Moriya Matsieng Mants'ebo Ramabanta
5. Mafeteng	Mafeteng	Van Rooyen's Ts'akholo Kolo Ts'ita's Nek Ramatseliso Motsekuoa Ha Makhakhe Matelile ha Seeiso Mount Tabor Thabana Morena Ha Khobotle Thaba Ts'oeu
6. Mohale's Hoek	Mohale's hoek	Phamong Holy Cross

		Masemousu Mpharane
7. Quthing	Moyeni	A' skop Mount Moorosi Mphaki
8. Qhacha's Nek	Qhacha's Nek	Sehlabathebe Ha Ramatseliso Ha Sekake White hill Ha Mpiti
9. Mokhotlong	Mokhotlong	Tlokoeng Mapholaneng Janteu Linakaneng Tlhanyaku Phahameng
10. Thaba-Tseka	Thaba-Tseka	Mantsonyane Sehonghong Mashai Katse



Kingdom of Lesotho



**Statistical Report  
No.33:2018**

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
August 2018**



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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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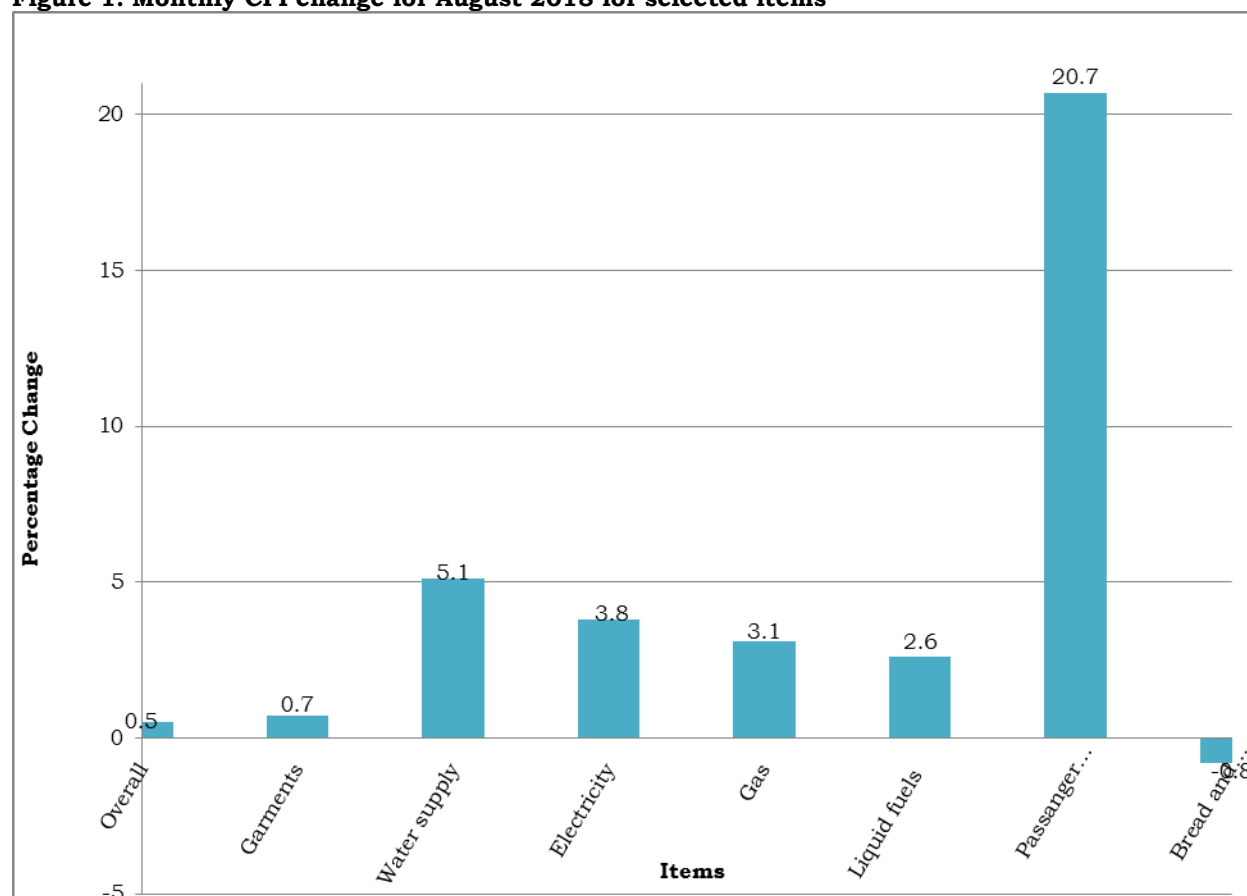
## 1. Introduction

This report presents the Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for August 2018 for Lesotho. The CPI is an indicator that shows changes in the cost of buying a fixed bundle of consumer goods and services as determined for the base period. In this report, CPI is calculated on monthly basis; thus, CPI is calculated comparing the prices of the current month with the prices of the previous month. Prices are collected every month in twelve urban areas and about seventy selected rural areas of Lesotho by personal visits to the outlets. About 40000 price quotations are collected in about 800 outlets for about 350 commodity items.

## 2. Monthly Consumer Price Index

This section covers the monthly price change for Lesotho. As depicted by Figure 1, the overall monthly CPI change for August 2018 is 0.5 percent which shows 0.2 percentage points increase from the index level observed in July 2018. The overall CPI measures a change in the index level for all items in August 2018 compared to the index level for all items in July 2018. The observed increase in monthly price indices was recorded for the following classes with their respective percentages: Garments with 0.7 percent, Water supply with 5.1 percent, Electricity (3.8 percent), Gas with 3.1 percent, Liquid fuels with 2.6 percent, as well as Passenger transport by road (20.7 percent). However, the increases in monthly price indices were counteracted by a decline of 0.8 percent for Bread and Cereal.

**Figure 1: Monthly CPI change for August 2018 for selected items**



The large monthly increases in the classes mentioned above were observed in the price indices of the following specific commodity items: Girls skirt, Boy's jackets, Water supply, Electricity, Gas, Paraffin, Bus tickets, as well as Taxi tickets.

### **3. Annual Inflation Rate**

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 annual inflation rate in this report is computed by comparing the CPI level of August 2018 to that of August 2017. The annual inflation rate is estimated 4.7 percent (see Table 1) which shows 0.6 percentage points increase from the rate observed in July 2018.

The divisions, which showed a significant annual increase in the inflation rate were: Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (4.0 percent), Clothing and footwear (2.3 percent), Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas (11.1 percent), Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (3.6 percent), Transport (10.3 percent) and Recreation and culture (4.1 percent).

The following groups had a contribution to the annual increase: Food with 4.0 Percent, Alcohol with 6.8 percent, Clothing with 2.9 percent, Electricity, Gas and other fuels with 16.4 percent, Operation of personal transport with 8.4 percent, as well as Transport services with 18.1 (See Table 2).

### **4. Services and Commodities Indices**

Services and commodities (disaggregated into Non-durables, semi durables and durables) indices are presented in this section. The services index is derived by aggregating all the services indices. Non-durables, semi durables and durable indices are calculated by aggregating all the Non-durables, semi durables and durables indices respectively.

The monthly increase was observed with the following percentages; services with 1.4 percent, Semi- Durables with 0.6 percent, while Durables and Non-Durables with 0.1 percent. The annual inflation rates were 4.7, 3.6, 2.8 and 2.7 percent for Non-Durables, Durables, Semi-Durables and Services respectively (see Table 1).



## Annex 1: Tables

**Table 1: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Divisions – August 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Aug 17	July 18	Aug 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	103.59	107.87	108.42	0.5	4.7
01. Food & Non-alcoholic beverages	361.13	104.72	109.30	108.91	-0.4	4.0
02. Alcohol and Tobacco	33.31	103.84	109.94	110.34	0.4	6.3
03. Clothing & Footwear	130.57	101.23	102.92	103.59	0.7	2.3
04. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	123.97	104.93	114.42	116.57	1.9	11.1
05. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	84.77	103.37	106.93	107.10	0.2	3.6
06 Health	15.04	100.17	100.90	101.10	0.2	0.9
07. Transport	48.21	100.18	104.78	110.48	5.4	10.3
08 Communications	21.05	100.02	99.18	99.18	0.0	-0.8
09. Recreation and culture	57.08	103.17	107.41	107.43	0.0	4.1
10. Education	42.00	106.44	108.30	108.30	0.0	1.7
11. Restaurants and Hotels	10.30	101.16	103.39	103.40	0.0	2.2
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	72.59	103.06	105.42	105.85	0.4	2.7
<b>Services</b>	<b>200.05</b>	<b>102.35</b>	<b>103.67</b>	<b>105.16</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>2.7</b>
<b>Non-durables</b>	<b>549.99</b>	<b>98.79</b>	<b>103.40</b>	<b>103.49</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>Semi durables</b>	<b>168.56</b>	<b>101.59</b>	<b>103.87</b>	<b>104.46</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>2.8</b>
<b>Durables</b>	<b>81.40</b>	<b>102.76</b>	<b>106.35</b>	<b>106.42</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>3.6</b>

**Table 2: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups –August 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Aug 17	July 18	Aug 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	103.59	107.87	108.42	0.5	4.7
01.1Food	348.52	104.73	109.32	108.90	-0.4	4.0
01.2Non alcoholic beverages	12.61	104.67	108.92	109.20	0.3	4.3
02.1Alcohol	28.28	103.78	110.49	110.86	0.3	6.8
02.2Tobacco	5.03	104.13	106.87	107.41	0.5	3.2
03.1Clothing	90.26	100.78	102.89	103.69	0.8	2.9
03.2Footwear	40.31	102.23	103.00	103.38	0.4	1.1
04.1Actual rentals for housing	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2Imputed rent for housing	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3Maintanance and repair of dwelling	8.03	100.77	101.69	101.94	0.2	1.2
04.4Water and miscellaneous services relating to dwelling	4.38	101.21	105.00	109.05	3.9	7.7
04.5Electricity, Gas and other fuels	79.33	107.54	122.06	125.18	2.6	16.4
05.1Furniture and furnishings	18.87	102.44	105.23	105.43	0.2	2.9
05.2Household textiles	11.95	112.10	124.47	124.49	0.0	11.1
05.3Household appliances	4.56	101.00	104.08	104.52	0.4	3.5
05.4Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.34	101.18	101.18	0.0	0.8
05.5Tools and equipment for house and garden	7.08	99.96	99.99	100.07	0.1	0.1
05.6Goods and services for routine household maintenance	36.93	102.40	104.64	104.85	0.2	2.4
06.1Medical products, appliances and equipment	7.68	100.19	101.05	101.35	0.3	1.2
06.2Out-patient services	1.89	100.58	102.89	103.28	0.4	2.7
06.3Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1Purchase of vehicles	8.73	101.29	102.88	102.88	0.0	1.6
7.2Operation of personal transport	23.87	99.89	108.18	108.29	0.1	8.4
7.3Transport services	15.60	100.00	100.63	118.08	17.3	18.1
8.1Postal services	0.13	102.71	102.95	102.95	0.0	0.2
8.2Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	99.08	99.08	0.0	-0.9
9.1Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	42.39	103.86	108.89	108.89	0.0	4.8
9.3Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	0.47	107.83	111.50	111.53	0.0	3.4
9.4Recreational and cultural services	3.22	100.41	103.43	103.43	0.0	3.0
9.5 Newspapers, books and stationery	10.74	101.12	102.76	102.86	0.1	1.7
09.6Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	111.10	114.77	114.77	0.0	3.3
10.2Secondary education	20.19	109.30	111.83	111.83	0.0	2.3
10.3Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1Catering services	7.32	101.43	104.40	104.34	-0.1	2.9
11.2Accommodation services	2.98	100.51	100.91	101.09	0.2	0.6
12.1Personal care	38.90	104.73	107.98	108.27	0.3	3.4
12.3Personal effects	7.10	101.58	103.11	103.88	0.7	2.3
12.4Social Protection	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5Insurance	6.31	100.00	101.24	101.24	0.0	1.2
12.6Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7Other services	13.23	100.77	101.47	102.57	1.1	1.8

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – August 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers		Aug 18	% change	
		Aug 17	July 18		M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	103.59	107.87	108.42	0.5	4.7
01.1.1Bread and cereals	138.36	102.55	103.49	102.66	-0.8	0.1
01.1.2Meat	49.04	107.71	121.28	121.53	0.2	12.8
01.1.3Fish	6.73	101.97	110.54	110.03	-0.5	7.9
01.1.4Milk, cheese and eggs	22.05	104.82	110.68	109.97	-0.6	4.9
01.1.5Oils and fats	43.96	103.87	106.51	105.57	-0.9	1.6
01.1.6Fruit	2.02	102.94	112.24	111.92	-0.3	8.7
01.1.7Vegetables	46.40	108.52	116.78	117.39	0.5	8.2
01.1.8Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	22.15	107.36	108.48	107.82	-0.6	0.4
01.1.9Food products n.e.c.	17.82	103.52	107.70	107.97	0.3	4.3
01.2.1Coffee, tea and cocoa	6.41	106.79	111.52	112.13	0.5	5.0
01.2.2Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	6.21	102.49	106.22	106.17	0.0	3.6
02.1.1Spirits	0.67	102.17	105.99	106.15	0.2	3.9
02.1.2Wine	2.18	101.32	104.03	104.47	0.4	3.1
02.1.3Beer	25.42	104.04	111.16	111.54	0.3	7.2
02.2.1Tobacco	5.03	104.13	106.87	107.41	0.5	3.2
03.1.1Clothing materials	0.78	100.00	106.18	107.59	1.3	7.6
03.1.2Garments	80.75	100.83	102.47	103.18	0.7	2.3
03.1.3Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	8.66	100.45	106.43	108.05	1.5	7.6
03.1.4Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.06	101.48	105.62	105.62	0.0	4.1
03.2.1Shoes and other footwear	40.07	102.24	103.00	103.38	0.4	1.1
03.2.2Repair and hire of footwear	0.24	100.94	102.61	102.61	0.0	1.7
04.1.1Actual rentals paid by tenants	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2.1Imputed rentals of owner-occupiers	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3.1Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	4.82	101.29	102.82	103.23	0.4	1.9
04.3.2Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.1Water supply	3.27	103.29	106.70	112.12	5.1	8.5
04.4.2Refuse collection	0.08	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.3Sewerage services	0.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.4Other services relating to the dwelling	0.83	93.38	100.04	100.04	0.0	7.1
04.5.1Electricity	15.26	103.44	106.99	111.06	3.8	7.4
04.5.2Gas	22.50	104.87	117.64	121.24	3.1	15.6
04.5.3Liquid fuels	28.55	112.70	141.04	144.65	2.6	28.3
04.5.4Solid fuels	28.55	112.70	141.04	144.65	2.6	28.3
05.1.1Furniture and furnishings	18.46	102.49	105.32	105.52	0.2	3.0
05.1.2Carpets and other floor coverings	0.38	100.24	101.00	101.13	0.1	0.9
05.1.3Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.04	100.00	102.46	102.46	0.0	2.5
05.2.1Household textiles	11.95	112.10	124.47	124.49	0.0	11.1
05.3.1Major household appliances whether electric or not	3.94	101.16	104.64	105.13	0.5	3.9

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) – August 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Aug 17	July18	Aug 18	M%	Y%
05.3.2Small electric household appliances	0.61	99.98	100.55	100.67	0.1	0.7
05.3.3Repair of household appliances	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
05.4.1Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.34	101.18	101.18	0.0	0.8
05.5.1Major tools and equipment	5.58	99.78	99.66	99.66	0.0	-0.1
05.5.2Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1.50	100.62	101.23	101.62	0.4	1.0
05.6.1Non-durable household goods	34.07	102.60	105.03	105.26	0.2	2.6
05.6.2Domestic services and home care services	2.86	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.1.1Pharmaceutical products	4.80	100.28	100.84	101.33	0.5	1.0
06.1.2Other medical products	0.61	100.20	100.93	100.90	0.0	0.7
06.1.3Therapeutic appliances and equipment	2.26	100.00	101.51	101.51	0.0	1.5
06.2.1Medical Services	1.09	101.00	105.01	105.68	0.6	4.6
06.2.2Dental services	0.13	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.2.3Paramedical services	0.67	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.3.1Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.1Motor cars	7.89	101.36	103.12	103.12	0.0	1.7
07.1.3Bicycles	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.4Animal drawn vehicles	0.78	100.70	100.70	100.70	0.0	0.0
07.2.1Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	8.40	101.90	101.23	101.83	0.6	-0.1
07.2.2Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	9.39	96.88	116.30	115.86	-0.4	19.6
07.2.3Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	3.37	102.80	109.12	109.59	0.4	6.6
07.2.4Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	2.71	100.47	100.49	100.49	0.0	0.0
07.3.2Passenger transport by road	13.12	100.00	100.00	120.71	20.7	20.7
07.3.3Passenger transport by air	0.24	100.00	110.98	113.52	2.3	13.5
07.3.4Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.6Other Transport services	2.21	100.00	103.26	103.26	0.0	3.3
8.1.1Postal services	0.13	102.71	102.95	102.95	0.0	0.2
8.2.1Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3.1Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	99.08	99.08	0.0	-0.9
9.1.1Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	35.84	104.36	110.38	110.38	0.0	5.8
9.1.2Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	5.91	101.06	100.03	100.03	0.0	-1.0
9.1.3Information processing equipment	0.33	104.27	114.61	114.61	0.0	9.9
9.1.5Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.3.1Games, toys and hobbies	0.29	112.26	117.76	117.76	0.0	4.9
09.3.2Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.3.3Gardens, plants and flowers	0.05	100.00	103.62	103.62	0.0	3.6
09.3.4Pets and related products	0.03	103.83	102.67	103.09	0.4	-0.7
09.3.5Veterinary and other services for pets	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.1Recreational and sport services	0.14	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.2Cultural services	3.06	100.33	103.50	103.50	0.0	3.2
09.4.3Games of chance	0.02	115.38	115.38	115.38	0.0	0.0
09.5.1Books	3.37	100.05	101.49	101.51	0.0	1.5
09.5.2Newspapers and periodicals	0.61	102.28	107.28	108.35	1.0	5.9
09.5.3Miscellaneous printed matter	0.11	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.5.4Stationery and drawing materials	6.66	101.57	103.04	103.09	0.1	1.5
09.6.1Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) – August 2018**

	Weight	Aug 17	July18	Index numbers Aug 18	M%	% change Y%
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	111.10	114.77	114.77	0.0	3.3
10.2.1Secondary education	20.19	109.30	111.83	111.83	0.0	2.3
10.3.1Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4.1Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5.1Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1.1Restaurants, caf��s and the like	7.27	101.44	104.43	104.37	-0.1	2.9
11.1.2Canteens	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.2.1Accommodation services	2.98	100.51	100.91	101.09	0.2	0.6
12.1.1Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	29.16	105.19	108.46	108.76	0.3	3.4
12.1.2Electrical appliances for personal care	0.19	100.00	98.81	98.81	0.0	-1.2
12.1.3Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	9.55	103.43	106.71	106.98	0.3	3.4
12.3.1Jewellery, clocks and watches	0.30	100.00	100.19	100.00	-0.2	0.0
12.3.2Other personal effects	6.80	101.65	103.24	104.05	0.8	2.4
12.4.1Social Protection services	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.2Insurance connected with dwelling	0.91	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.3Insurance connected with health	2.37	100.00	103.30	103.30	0.0	3.3
12.5.4Insurance connected with transport	3.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6.2Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7.1Other services n.e.c	13.23	100.77	101.47	102.57	1.1	1.8

## **Annex 2: Explanations and Technical Notes**

The CPI has been rebased and the new reference period is December 2016. The linking factor was estimated and the indices from December 2016 and the months preceding December were multiplied by this factor. The resulting indices were then multiplied by 100/ December Index.

The formula used in calculating the price indices is Modified Laspeyres index formula with elementary price indices being calculated using geometric mean. The officially accepted method of measuring inflation rate in Lesotho is the index for the current month compared with that of the corresponding month in the previous year.

$$\{(I_c/I_p)-1\} \times 100 = \text{Inflation rate}$$

Where:         $I_c$  = index for the current month,  
                   $I_p$  = index for the same month in the previous year.

Bureau of Statistics (BOS) recommends this method over others for estimating the annual inflation rate. This method tends to eliminate any possible seasonal effects, since the indices for the corresponding months are compared. However, it should be borne in mind that inflation rate calculated according to this method fluctuates considerably.

Goods and services are classified according to Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose -International Comparison Programme (COICOP-ICP).

The weights are calculated on the basis of the 2010/11 Household Budget Survey (HBS). The CPI results are published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month of data collection. Additional and more detailed information is also available from the BOS website: [www.bos.gov.ls](http://www.bos.gov.ls), Email address: [economics@bos.gov.ls](mailto:economics@bos.gov.ls) and or at BOS Library.

### Annex 3: Areas where monthly price data are collected

DISTRICT	AREA: URBAN	AREA: RURAL
1. Butha-Buthe	Butha-Buthe	Malelefiloane Tsime Qholaqhoe Ha Molapo Manamela Qalo Muela Khukhune Ha Selomo Seboche
2. Leribe	Hlotse Maputsoe	Ha Lejone Pitseng Peka Kolonyama
3. Berea	Teya-Teyaneng	Mamathe Mapoteng Makhoroana Sefikeng Khotsi's Ha Rakoto Ha Koali
4. Maseru	Maseru Semonkong	Roma Nazareth Moriya Matsieng Mants'ebo Ramabanta
5. Mafeteng	Mafeteng	Van Rooyen's Ts'akholo Kolo Ts'ita's Nek Ramatseliso Motsekuoa Ha Makhakhe Matelile ha Seeiso Mount Tabor Thabana Morena Ha Khobotle Thaba Ts'oeu
6. Mohale's Hoek	Mohale's hoek	Phamong Holy Cross Masemousu

		Mpharane
7. Quthing	Moyeni	A' skop Mount Moorosi Mphaki
8. Qhacha's Nek	Qhacha's Nek	Sehlabathebe Ha Ramatseliso Ha Sekake White hill Ha Mpiti
9. Mokhotlong	Mokhotlong	Tlokoeng Mapholaneng Janteu Linakaneng Tlhanyaku phahameng
10. Thaba-Tseka	Thaba-Tseka	Mantsonyane Sehonghong Mashai katse





Kingdom of Lesotho



**Statistical Report  
No.37:2018**

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
September 2018**



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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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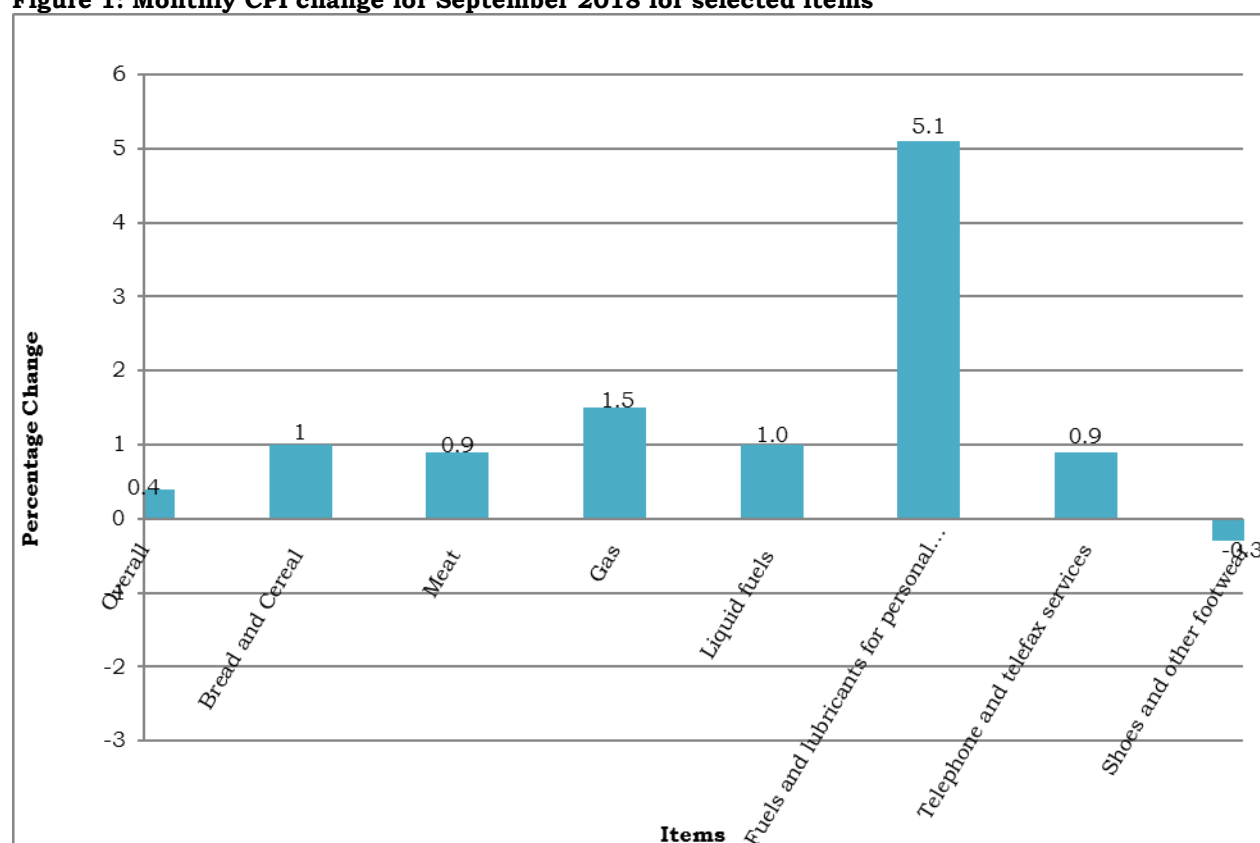
## 1. Introduction

This report presents the Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for September 2018 for Lesotho. The CPI is an indicator that shows changes in the cost of buying a fixed bundle of consumer goods and services as determined for the base period. In this report, CPI is calculated on monthly basis; thus, CPI is calculated comparing the prices of the current month with the prices of the previous month. Prices are collected every month in twelve urban areas and about seventy selected rural areas of Lesotho by personal visits to the outlets. About 40000 price quotations are collected in about 800 outlets for about 350 commodity items.

## 2. Monthly Consumer Price Index

This section covers the monthly price change for Lesotho. As depicted by Figure 1, the overall monthly CPI change for September 2018 is 0.4 percent which shows 0.1 percentage point decrease from the index level observed in August 2018. The overall CPI measures a change in the index level for all items in September 2018 compared to the index level for all items in August 2018. The observed increase in monthly price indices was recorded for the following classes with their respective percentages: Bread and cereals with 1.0 percent, Meat with 0.9 percent, Gas with 1.5 percent, Liquid fuels with 1.0 percent, Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment with 5.1 percent, as well as Telephone and Telefax with 0.9 percent. However, the increases in monthly price indices were counteracted by a decline of 0.3 percent for Shoes and other footwear.

**Figure 1: Monthly CPI change for September 2018 for selected items**



The large monthly increases in the classes mentioned above were observed in the price indices of the following specific commodity items: Maize meal, Bread flour, Dried, Salted, or Smoked meat, Mutton, Gas, Paraffin, Diesel, Petrol Other phone services as well as Internet.

### **3. Annual Inflation Rate**

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 annual inflation rate in this report is computed by comparing the CPI level of September 2018 to that of September 2017. The annual inflation rate is estimated 5.0 percent (see Table 1) which shows 0.3 percentage points increase from the rate observed in August 2018.

The divisions, which showed a significant annual increase in the inflation rate were: Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (4.4 percent), Clothing and footwear (2.3 percent), Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas (12.4 percent), Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (3.3 percent), Transport (10.6 percent) and Recreation and culture (4.4 percent), (see Table 1).

The following groups had a contribution to the annual increase: Food with 4.4 Percent, Alcohol with 6.9 percent, Clothing with 2.8 percent, Electricity, Gas and other fuels with 18.5 percent, Operation of personal transport with 9.0 percent, as well as Transport services with 18.1 (See Table 2).

### **4. Services and Commodities Indices**

Services and commodities (disaggregated into Non-durables, semi durables and durables) indices are presented in this section. The services index is derived by aggregating all the services indices. Non-durables, semi durables and durable indices are calculated by aggregating all the Non-durables, semi durables and durables indices respectively.

The monthly increase was observed with the following percentages; Durables with 0.9 percent, Non- Durables with 0.6 percent, services with 0.1 percent but there was a decline of 0.2 percent for Semi- Durables. The annual inflation rates were 5.3, 3.6, 2.8 and 2.7 percent for Non-Durables, Durables, Services and Semi-Durables respectively (see Table 1).

## Annex 1: Tables

**Table 1: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Divisions – September 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Sep 17	Aug 18	Sep 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	103.71	108.42	108.89	0.4	5.0
01. Food & Non-alcoholic beverages	361.13	104.90	108.91	109.57	0.6	4.4
02. Alcohol and Tobacco	33.31	104.07	110.34	110.59	0.2	6.3
03. Clothing & Footwear	130.57	101.14	103.59	103.43	-0.2	2.3
04. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	123.97	104.32	116.57	117.24	0.6	12.4
05. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	84.77	103.59	107.10	107.01	-0.1	3.3
06 Health	15.04	100.11	101.10	101.18	0.1	1.1
07. Transport	48.21	101.12	110.48	111.83	1.2	10.6
08 Communications	21.05	100.02	99.18	100.01	0.8	0.0
09. Recreation and culture	57.08	104.38	107.43	108.93	1.4	4.4
10. Education	42.00	106.59	108.30	108.30	0.0	1.6
11. Restaurants and Hotels	10.30	101.35	103.40	103.33	-0.1	2.0
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	72.59	102.99	105.85	105.79	-0.1	2.7
<b>Services</b>	<b>200.05</b>	<b>102.39</b>	<b>105.16</b>	<b>105.27</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>2.8</b>
<b>Non-durables</b>	<b>549.99</b>	<b>98.87</b>	<b>103.49</b>	<b>104.13</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>5.3</b>
<b>Semi durables</b>	<b>168.56</b>	<b>101.56</b>	<b>104.46</b>	<b>104.27</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>2.7</b>
<b>Durables</b>	<b>81.40</b>	<b>103.69</b>	<b>106.42</b>	<b>107.41</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>3.6</b>

**Table 2: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups – September 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Sep 17	Aug 18	Sep 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	103.71	108.42	108.89	0.4	5.0
01.1Food	348.52	104.90	108.90	109.57	0.6	4.4
01.2Non alcoholic beverages	12.61	104.95	109.20	109.53	0.3	4.4
02.1Alcohol	28.28	103.91	110.86	111.05	0.2	6.9
02.2Tobacco	5.03	104.94	107.41	107.97	0.5	2.9
03.1Clothing	90.26	100.76	103.69	103.57	-0.1	2.8
03.2Footwear	40.31	101.99	103.38	103.11	-0.3	1.1
04.1Actual rentals for housing	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2Imputed rent for housing	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3Maintanance and repair of dwelling	8.03	100.81	101.94	102.24	0.3	1.4
04.4Water and miscellaneous services relating to dwelling	4.38	102.46	109.05	109.05	0.0	6.4
04.5Electricity, Gas and other fuels	79.33	106.52	125.18	126.19	0.8	18.5
05.1Furniture and furnishings	18.87	102.55	105.43	104.98	-0.4	2.4
05.2Household textiles	11.95	112.10	124.49	123.65	-0.7	10.3
05.3Houseould appliances	4.56	102.65	104.52	105.28	0.7	2.6
05.4Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.43	101.18	101.34	0.2	0.9
05.5Tools and equipment for house and garden	7.08	100.02	100.07	100.04	0.0	0.0
05.6Goods and services for routine household maintenance	36.93	102.63	104.85	105.04	0.2	2.3
06.1Medical products, appliances and equipment	7.68	100.07	101.35	101.37	0.0	1.3
06.2Out-patient services	1.89	100.58	103.28	103.83	0.5	3.2
06.3Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1Purchase of vehicles	8.73	101.29	102.88	102.96	0.1	1.6
7.2Operation of personal transport	23.87	101.80	108.29	110.98	2.5	9.0
7.3Transport services	15.60	99.98	118.08	118.08	0.0	18.1
8.1Postal services	0.13	102.71	102.95	102.95	0.0	0.2
8.2Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	99.08	100.00	0.9	0.0
9.1Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	42.39	105.43	108.89	110.81	1.8	5.1
9.3Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	0.47	107.88	111.53	111.41	-0.1	3.3
9.4Recreational and cultural services	3.22	100.41	103.43	103.33	-0.1	2.9
9.5 Newspapers, books and stationery	10.74	101.40	102.86	103.32	0.4	1.9
09.6Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	112.05	114.77	114.77	0.0	2.4
10.2Secondary education	20.19	109.30	111.83	111.83	0.0	2.3
10.3Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1Catering services	7.32	101.69	104.34	104.25	-0.1	2.5
11.2Accommodation services	2.98	100.51	101.09	101.09	0.0	0.6
12.1Personal care	38.90	104.61	108.27	108.09	-0.2	3.3
12.3Personal effects	7.10	101.58	103.88	104.33	0.4	2.7
12.4Social Protection	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5Insurance	6.31	100.00	101.24	101.24	0.0	1.2
12.6Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7Other services	13.23	100.77	102.57	102.57	0.0	1.8

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – September 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Sep 17	Aug 18	Sep 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	103.71	108.42	108.89	0.4	5.0
01.1.1Bread and cereals	138.36	101.52	102.66	103.69	1.0	2.1
01.1.2Meat	49.04	110.74	121.53	122.59	0.9	10.7
01.1.3Fish	6.73	102.86	110.03	110.36	0.3	7.3
01.1.4Milk, cheese and eggs	22.05	105.10	109.97	109.88	-0.1	4.5
01.1.5Oils and fats	43.96	103.94	105.57	105.88	0.3	1.9
01.1.6Fruit	2.02	103.17	111.92	111.69	-0.2	8.3
01.1.7Vegetables	46.40	109.29	117.39	117.56	0.1	7.6
01.1.8Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	22.15	107.22	107.82	108.26	0.4	1.0
01.1.9Food products n.e.c.	17.82	103.87	107.97	108.33	0.3	4.3
01.2.1Coffee, tea and cocoa	6.41	107.11	112.13	112.76	0.6	5.3
01.2.2Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	6.21	102.72	106.17	106.20	0.0	3.4
02.1.1Spirits	0.67	102.47	106.15	106.46	0.3	3.9
02.1.2Wine	2.18	101.10	104.47	104.59	0.1	3.4
02.1.3Beer	25.42	104.19	111.54	111.73	0.2	7.2
02.2.1Tobacco	5.03	104.94	107.41	107.97	0.5	2.9
03.1.1Clothing materials	0.78	100.00	107.59	107.59	0.0	7.6
03.1.2Garments	80.75	100.78	103.18	103.05	-0.1	2.3
03.1.3Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	8.66	100.64	108.05	108.05	0.0	7.4
03.1.4Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.06	101.48	105.62	105.62	0.0	4.1
03.2.1Shoes and other footwear	40.07	101.99	103.38	103.12	-0.3	1.1
03.2.2Repair and hire of footwear	0.24	101.09	102.61	102.61	0.0	1.5
04.1.1Actual rentals paid by tenants	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2.1Imputed rentals of owner-occupiers	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3.1Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	4.82	101.35	103.23	103.74	0.5	2.4
04.3.2Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.1Water supply	3.27	103.29	112.12	112.12	0.0	8.5
04.4.2Refuse collection	0.08	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.3Sewerage services	0.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.4Other services relating to the dwelling	0.83	100.04	100.04	100.04	0.0	0.0
04.5.1Electricity	15.26	103.44	111.06	111.06	0.0	7.4
04.5.2Gas	22.50	101.11	121.24	123.01	1.5	21.7
04.5.3Liquid fuels	28.55	112.82	144.65	146.05	1.0	29.5
04.5.4Solid fuels	28.55	112.82	144.65	146.05	1.0	29.5
05.1.1Furniture and furnishings	18.46	102.60	105.52	105.27	-0.2	2.6
05.1.2Carpets and other floor coverings	0.38	100.44	101.13	100.86	-0.3	0.4
05.1.3Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.04	100.00	102.46	0.00	100.0	100.0
05.2.1Household textiles	11.95	112.10	124.49	123.65	-0.7	10.3
05.3.1Major household appliances whether electric or not	3.94	103.06	105.13	105.94	0.8	2.8

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) September 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Sep 17	Aug 18	Sep 18	M%	Y%
05.3.2Small electric household appliances	0.61	100.03	100.67	101.10	0.4	1.1
05.3.3Repair of household appliances	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
05.4.1Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.43	101.18	101.34	0.2	0.9
05.5.1Major tools and equipment	5.58	99.78	99.66	99.66	0.0	-0.1
05.5.2Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1.50	100.89	101.62	101.42	-0.2	0.5
05.6.1Non-durable household goods	34.07	102.85	105.26	105.46	0.2	2.5
05.6.2Domestic services and home care services	2.86	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.1.1Pharmaceutical products	4.80	100.07	101.33	101.37	0.0	1.3
06.1.2Other medical products	0.61	100.26	100.90	100.91	0.0	0.6
06.1.3Therapeutic appliances and equipment	2.26	100.00	101.51	101.51	0.0	1.5
06.2.1Medical Services	1.09	101.00	105.68	106.63	0.9	5.6
06.2.2Dental services	0.13	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.2.3Paramedical services	0.67	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.3.1Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.1Motor cars	7.89	101.36	103.12	103.21	0.1	1.8
07.1.3Bicycles	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.4Animal drawn vehicles	0.78	100.70	100.70	100.70	0.0	0.0
07.2.1Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	8.40	102.63	101.83	101.00	-0.8	-1.6
07.2.2Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	9.39	100.93	115.86	121.76	5.1	20.6
07.2.3Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	3.37	102.88	109.59	114.27	4.3	11.1
07.2.4Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	2.71	100.88	100.49	100.49	0.0	-0.4
07.3.2Passenger transport by road	13.12	100.00	120.71	120.71	0.0	20.7
07.3.3Passenger transport by air	0.24	98.62	113.52	113.52	0.0	15.1
07.3.4Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.6Other Transport services	2.21	100.00	103.26	103.26	0.0	3.3
8.1.1Postal services	0.13	102.71	102.95	102.95	0.0	0.2
8.2.1Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3.1Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	99.08	100.00	0.9	0.0
9.1.1Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	35.84	106.20	110.38	112.90	2.3	6.3
9.1.2Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	5.91	101.06	100.03	98.45	-1.6	-2.6
9.1.3Information processing equipment	0.33	104.81	114.61	114.80	0.2	9.5
9.1.5Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.3.1Games, toys and hobbies	0.29	112.26	117.76	117.50	-0.2	4.7
09.3.2Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.3.3Gardens, plants and flowers	0.05	100.53	103.62	103.97	0.3	3.4
09.3.4Pets and related products	0.03	103.83	103.09	103.07	0.0	-0.7
09.3.5Veterinary and other services for pets	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.1Recreational and sport services	0.14	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.2Cultural services	3.06	100.33	103.50	103.50	0.0	3.2
09.4.3Games of chance	0.02	115.38	115.38	100.00	-13.3	-13.3
09.5.1Books	3.37	100.13	101.51	102.43	0.9	2.3
09.5.2Newspapers and periodicals	0.61	102.29	108.35	110.22	1.7	7.8
09.5.3Miscellaneous printed matter	0.11	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.5.4Stationery and drawing materials	6.66	101.98	103.09	103.20	0.1	1.2
09.6.1Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0



**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) –September 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Sep 17	Aug 18	Sep 18	M%	Y%
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	112.05	114.77	114.77	0.0	2.4
10.2.1Secondary education	20.19	109.30	111.83	111.83	0.0	2.3
10.3.1Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4.1Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5.1Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1.1Restaurants, caf��s and the like	7.27	101.70	104.37	104.27	-0.1	2.5
11.1.2Canteens	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.2.1Accommodation services	2.98	100.51	101.09	101.09	0.0	0.6
12.1.1Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	29.16	104.95	108.76	108.47	-0.3	3.4
12.1.2Electrical appliances for personal care	0.19	100.00	98.81	98.81	0.0	-1.2
12.1.3Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	9.55	103.67	106.98	107.08	0.1	3.3
12.3.1Jewellery, clocks and watches	0.30	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.3.2Other personal effects	6.80	101.65	104.05	104.52	0.5	2.8
12.4.1Social Protection services	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.2Insurance connected with dwelling	0.91	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.3Insurance connected with health	2.37	100.00	103.30	103.30	0.0	3.3
12.5.4Insurance connected with transport	3.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6.2Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7.1Other services n.e.c	13.23	100.77	102.57	102.57	0.0	1.8

## **Annex 2: Explanations and Technical Notes**

The CPI has been rebased and the new reference period is December 2016. The linking factor was estimated and the indices from December 2016 and the months preceding December were multiplied by this factor. The resulting indices were then multiplied by 100/ December Index.

The formula used in calculating the price indices is Modified Laspeyres index formula with elementary price indices being calculated using geometric mean. The officially accepted method of measuring inflation rate in Lesotho is the index for the current month compared with that of the corresponding month in the previous year.

$$\{(I_c/I_p)-1\} \times 100 = \text{Inflation rate}$$

Where:         $I_c$  = index for the current month,  
                   $I_p$  = index for the same month in the previous year.

Bureau of Statistics (BOS) recommends this method over others for estimating the annual inflation rate. This method tends to eliminate any possible seasonal effects, since the indices for the corresponding months are compared. However, it should be borne in mind that inflation rate calculated according to this method fluctuates considerably.

Goods and services are classified according to Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose -International Comparison Programme (COICOP-ICP).

The weights are calculated on the basis of the 2010/11 Household Budget Survey (HBS). The CPI results are published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month of data collection. Additional and more detailed information is also available from the BOS website: [www.bos.gov.ls](http://www.bos.gov.ls), Email address: [economics@bos.gov.ls](mailto:economics@bos.gov.ls) and or at BOS Library.

### Annex 3: Areas where monthly price data are collected

DISTRICT	AREA: URBAN	AREA: RURAL
1. Butha-Buthe	Butha-Buthe	Malelefiloane Tsime Qholaqhoe Ha Molapo Manamela Qalo Muela Khukhune Ha Selomo Seboche
2. Leribe	Hlotse Maputsoe	Ha Lejone Pitseng Peka Kolonyama
3. Berea	Teya-Teyaneng	Mamathe Mapoteng Makhoroana Sefikeng Khotsi's Ha Rakoto Ha Koali
4. Maseru	Maseru Semonkong	Roma Nazareth Moriya Matsieng Mants'ebo Ramabanta
5. Mafeteng	Mafeteng	Van Rooyen's Ts'akholo Kolo Ts'ita's Nek Ramatseliso Motsekuoa Ha Makhakhe Matelile ha Seeiso Mount Tabor Thabana Morena Ha Khobotle Thaba Ts'oeu
6. Mohale's Hoek	Mohale's hoek	Phamong Holy Cross Masemousu Mpharane

7. Quthing	Moyeni	A' skop Mount Moorosi Mphaki
8. Qhacha's Nek	Qhacha's Nek	Sehlabathebe Ha Ramatseliso Ha Sekake White hill Ha Mpiti
9. Mokhotlong	Mokhotlong	Tlokoeng Mapholaneng Janteu Linakaneng Tlhanyaku phahameng
10. Thaba-Tseka	Thaba-Tseka	Mantsonyane Sehonghong Mashai katse



Kingdom of Lesotho



**Statistical Report  
No.38: 2018**

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
October 2018**



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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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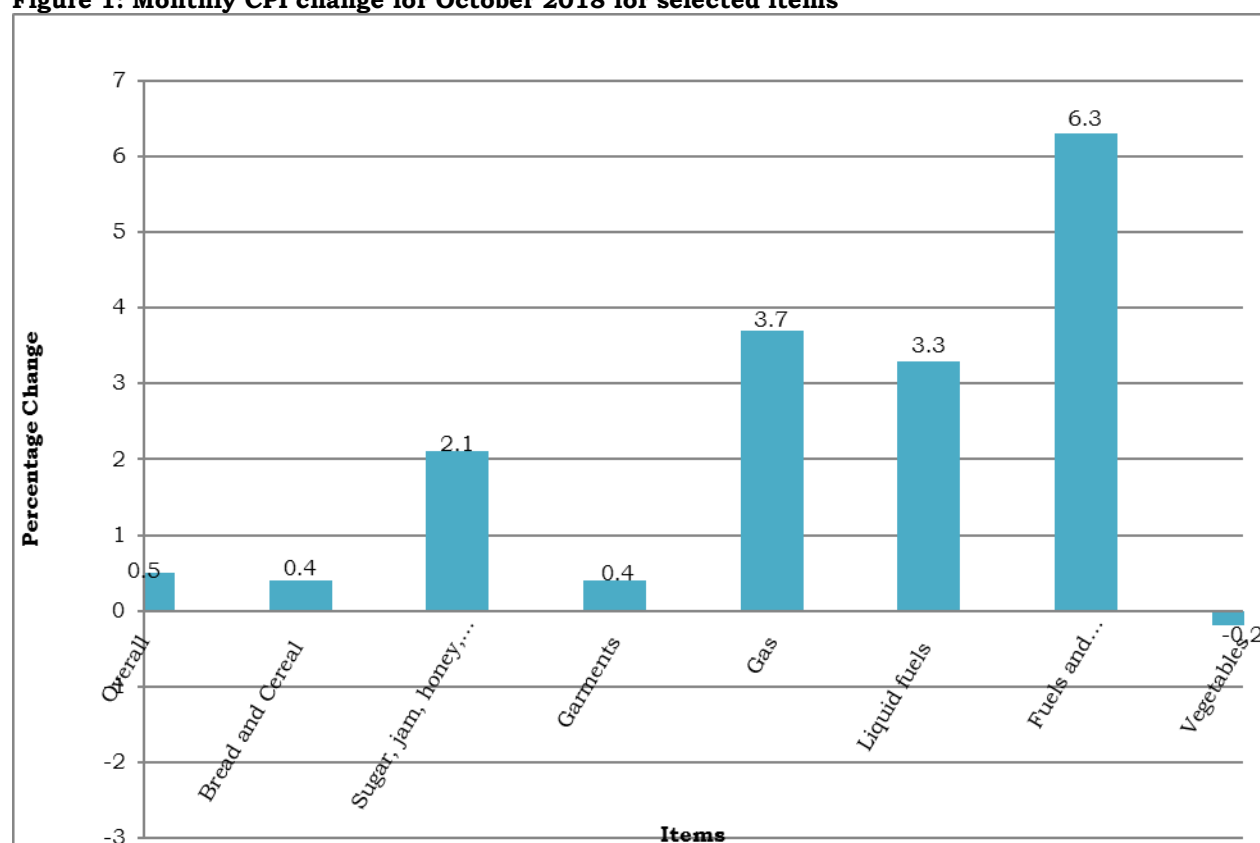
## 1. Introduction

This report presents the Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for October 2018 for Lesotho. The CPI is an indicator that shows changes in the cost of buying a fixed bundle of consumer goods and services as determined for the base period. In this report, CPI is calculated on monthly basis; thus, CPI is calculated comparing the prices of the current month with the prices of the previous month. Prices are collected every month in twelve urban areas and about seventy selected rural areas of Lesotho by personal visits to the outlets. About 40000 price quotations are collected in about 800 outlets for about 350 commodity items.

## 2. Monthly Consumer Price Index

This section covers the monthly price change for Lesotho. As depicted by Figure 1, the overall monthly CPI change for October 2018 is 0.5 percent which shows 0.1 percentage point increase from the index level observed in September 2018. The overall CPI measures a change in the index level for all items in October 2018 compared to the index level for all items in September 2018. The observed increase in monthly price indices was recorded for the following classes with their respective percentages: Bread and cereals with 0.4 percent, Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery with 2.1 percent, Garments with 0.4 percent, Gas with 3.7 percent, Liquid fuels with 3.3 percent as well as Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment with 6.3 percent. However, the increases in monthly price indices were counteracted by a decline of 0.2 percent for Vegetables.

**Figure 1: Monthly CPI change for October 2018 for selected items**



The large monthly increases in the classes mentioned above were observed in the price indices of the following specific commodity items: Cake flour, Bread flour, Sugar, Girls' skirts, Tights, Gas, Paraffin, Petrol as well as Diesel.

### **3. Annual Inflation Rate**

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 annual inflation rate in this report is computed by comparing the CPI level of October 2018 to that of October 2017. The annual inflation rate is estimated 5.3 percent (see Table 1) which shows 0.3 percentage points increase from the rate observed in September 2018.

The divisions, which showed a significant annual increase in the inflation rate were: Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (4.7 percent), Clothing and footwear (2.5 percent), Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas (13.3 percent), Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (3.4 percent), Transport (11.3 percent) and Recreation and culture (4.6 percent), (see Table 1).

The following groups had a contribution to the annual increase: Food with 4.8 Percent, Alcohol with 6.1 percent, Clothing with 3.1 percent, Electricity, Gas and other fuels with 19.8 percent, Operation of personal transport with 10.4 percent, as well as Transport services with 18.3 (See Table 2).

### **4. Services and Commodities Indices**

Services and commodities (disaggregated into Non-durables, semi durables and durables) indices are presented in this section. The services index is derived by aggregating all the services indices. Non-durables, semi durables and durable indices are calculated by aggregating all the Non-durables, semi durables and durables indices respectively.

The monthly increase was observed with the following percentages; Non- Durables with 0.6 percent, Semi- Durables with 0.3 percent as well as Durables and services with 0.1 percent. The annual inflation rates were 5.6, 3.7, 3.0 and 2.9 percent for Non-Durables, Durables, Semi-Durables and Services respectively (see Table 1).



## Annex 1: Tables

**Table 1: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Divisions – October 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Oct 17	Sep 18	Oct 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>103.95</b>	<b>108.89</b>	<b>109.46</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>5.3</b>
01. Food & Non-alcoholic beverages	361.13	105.01	109.57	109.98	0.4	4.7
02. Alcohol and Tobacco	33.31	105.00	110.59	110.92	0.3	5.6
03. Clothing & Footwear	130.57	101.20	103.43	103.72	0.3	2.5
04. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	123.97	105.21	117.24	119.20	1.7	13.3
05. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	84.77	103.65	107.01	107.19	0.2	3.4
06 Health	15.04	100.19	101.18	101.19	0.0	1.0
07. Transport	48.21	101.93	111.83	113.47	1.5	11.3
08 Communications	21.05	100.02	100.01	100.02	0.0	0.0
09. Recreation and culture	57.08	104.30	108.93	109.13	0.2	4.6
10. Education	42.00	106.73	108.30	108.30	0.0	1.5
11. Restaurants and Hotels	10.30	101.35	103.33	103.70	0.4	2.3
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	72.59	103.03	105.79	106.06	0.3	2.9
<b>Services</b>	<b>200.05</b>	<b>102.42</b>	<b>105.27</b>	<b>105.40</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>2.9</b>
<b>Non-durables</b>	<b>549.99</b>	<b>99.19</b>	<b>104.13</b>	<b>104.75</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>5.6</b>
<b>Semi durables</b>	<b>168.56</b>	<b>101.61</b>	<b>104.27</b>	<b>104.61</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>3.0</b>
<b>Durables</b>	<b>81.40</b>	<b>103.66</b>	<b>107.41</b>	<b>107.54</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>3.7</b>

**Table 2: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups – October 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Oct 17	Sep 18	Oct 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	<b>103.95</b>	<b>108.89</b>	<b>109.46</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>5.3</b>
01.1Food	348.52	105.00	109.57	109.99	0.4	4.8
01.2Non alcoholic beverages	12.61	105.29	109.53	109.78	0.2	4.3
02.1Alcohol	28.28	104.99	111.05	111.34	0.3	6.1
02.2Tobacco	5.03	105.04	107.97	108.53	0.5	3.3
03.1Clothing	90.26	100.80	103.57	103.95	0.4	3.1
03.2Footwear	40.31	102.09	103.11	103.23	0.1	1.1
04.1Actual rentals for housing	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2Imputed rent for housing	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3Maintanance and repair of dwelling	8.03	100.91	102.24	102.55	0.3	1.6
04.4Water and miscellaneous services relating to dwelling	4.38	102.46	109.05	109.05	0.0	6.4
04.5Electricity, Gas and other fuels	79.33	107.89	126.19	129.23	2.4	19.8
05.1Furniture and furnishings	18.87	102.66	104.98	105.31	0.3	2.6
05.2Household textiles	11.95	112.12	123.65	124.36	0.6	10.9
05.3Houseould appliances	4.56	102.69	105.28	105.41	0.1	2.7
05.4Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.52	101.34	101.41	0.1	0.9
05.5Tools and equipment for house and garden	7.08	100.18	100.04	100.06	0.0	-0.1
05.6Goods and services for routine household maintenance	36.93	102.65	105.04	105.02	0.0	2.3
06.1Medical products, appliances and equipment	7.68	100.19	101.37	101.24	-0.1	1.0
06.2Out-patient services	1.89	100.74	103.83	104.39	0.5	3.6
06.3Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1Purchase of vehicles	8.73	101.29	102.96	102.96	0.0	1.6
7.2Operation of personal transport	23.87	103.44	110.98	114.21	2.9	10.4
7.3Transport services	15.60	99.98	118.08	118.23	0.1	18.3
8.1Postal services	0.13	102.71	102.95	103.63	0.7	0.9
8.2Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.1Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	42.39	105.30	110.81	110.99	0.2	5.4
9.3Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	0.47	108.52	111.41	111.45	0.0	2.7
9.4Recreational and cultural services	3.22	100.41	103.33	103.33	0.0	2.9
9.5 Newspapers, books and stationery	10.74	101.44	103.32	103.68	0.3	2.2
09.6Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	112.59	114.77	114.77	0.0	1.9
10.2Secondary education	20.19	109.41	111.83	111.83	0.0	2.2
10.3Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1Catering services	7.32	101.68	104.25	104.76	0.5	3.0
11.2Accommodation services	2.98	100.54	101.09	101.09	0.0	0.5
12.1Personal care	38.90	104.69	108.09	108.44	0.3	3.6
12.3Personal effects	7.10	101.58	104.33	105.16	0.8	3.5
12.4Social Protection	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5Insurance	6.31	100.00	101.24	101.24	0.0	1.2
12.6Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7Other services	13.23	100.77	102.57	102.57	0.0	1.8

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – October 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers		Oct 18	% change	
		Oct 17	Sep 18		M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	<b>103.95</b>	<b>108.89</b>	<b>109.46</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>5.3</b>
01.1.1Bread and cereals	138.36	100.80	103.69	104.08	0.4	3.2
01.1.2Meat	49.04	111.84	122.59	123.00	0.3	10.0
01.1.3Fish	6.73	102.95	110.36	110.00	-0.3	6.8
01.1.4Milk, cheese and eggs	22.05	105.57	109.88	109.85	0.0	4.0
01.1.5Oils and fats	43.96	103.79	105.88	106.61	0.7	2.7
01.1.6Fruit	2.02	104.00	111.69	112.82	1.0	8.5
01.1.7Vegetables	46.40	111.00	117.56	117.27	-0.2	5.7
01.1.8Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	22.15	106.76	108.26	110.48	2.1	3.5
01.1.9Food products n.e.c.	17.82	104.10	108.33	108.74	0.4	4.5
01.2.1Coffee, tea and cocoa	6.41	107.60	112.76	113.15	0.3	5.2
01.2.2Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	6.21	102.92	106.20	106.30	0.1	3.3
02.1.1Spirits	0.67	102.68	106.46	106.61	0.1	3.8
02.1.2Wine	2.18	101.01	104.59	104.72	0.1	3.7
02.1.3Beer	25.42	105.39	111.73	112.03	0.3	6.3
02.2.1Tobacco	5.03	105.04	107.97	108.53	0.5	3.3
03.1.1Clothing materials	0.78	100.00	107.59	107.58	0.0	7.6
03.1.2Garments	80.75	100.82	103.05	103.47	0.4	2.6
03.1.3Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	8.66	100.67	108.05	108.03	0.0	7.3
03.1.4Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.06	101.48	105.62	106.77	1.1	5.2
03.2.1Shoes and other footwear	40.07	102.09	103.12	103.23	0.1	1.1
03.2.2Repair and hire of footwear	0.24	101.09	102.61	102.61	0.0	1.5
04.1.1Actual rentals paid by tenants	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2.1Imputed rentals of owner-occupiers	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3.1Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	4.82	101.51	103.74	104.25	0.5	2.7
04.3.2Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.1Water supply	3.27	103.29	112.12	112.12	0.0	8.5
04.4.2Refuse collection	0.08	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.3Sewerage services	0.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.4Other services relating to the dwelling	0.83	100.04	100.04	100.04	0.0	0.0
04.5.1Electricity	15.26	103.44	111.06	111.06	0.0	7.4
04.5.2Gas	22.50	103.88	123.01	127.61	3.7	22.8
04.5.3Liquid fuels	28.55	114.44	146.05	150.91	3.3	31.9
04.5.4Solid fuels	28.55	114.44	146.05	150.91	3.3	31.9
05.1.1Furniture and furnishings	18.46	102.71	105.27	105.40	0.1	2.6
05.1.2Carpets and other floor coverings	0.38	100.66	100.86	101.03	0.2	0.4
05.1.3Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.04	100.00	102.46	102.46	0.0	2.5
05.2.1Household textiles	11.95	112.12	123.65	124.36	0.6	10.9
05.3.1Major household appliances whether electric or not	3.94	103.09	105.94	106.10	0.2	2.9

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) October 2018**

	Weight	Oct 17	Index numbers		% change	
			Sep 18	Oct 18	M%	Y%
05.3.2Small electric household appliances	0.61	100.16	101.10	101.03	-0.1	0.9
05.3.3Repair of household appliances	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
05.4.1Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.52	101.34	101.41	0.1	0.9
05.5.1Major tools and equipment	5.58	99.94	99.66	99.67	0.0	-0.3
05.5.2Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1.50	101.07	101.42	101.55	0.1	0.5
05.6.1Non-durable household goods	34.07	102.87	105.46	105.44	0.0	2.5
05.6.2Domestic services and home care services	2.86	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.1.1Pharmaceutical products	4.80	100.26	101.37	101.14	-0.2	0.9
06.1.2Other medical products	0.61	100.32	100.91	100.98	0.1	0.7
06.1.3Therapeutic appliances and equipment	2.26	100.00	101.51	101.51	0.0	1.5
06.2.1Medical Services	1.09	101.29	106.63	107.59	0.9	6.2
06.2.2Dental services	0.13	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.2.3Paramedical services	0.67	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
06.3.1Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.1Motor cars	7.89	101.36	103.21	103.21	0.0	1.8
07.1.3Bicycles	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1.4Animal drawn vehicles	0.78	100.70	100.70	100.70	0.0	0.0
07.2.1Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	8.40	102.57	101.00	101.30	0.3	-1.2
07.2.2Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	9.39	105.19	121.76	129.49	6.3	23.1
07.2.3Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	3.37	102.82	114.27	113.79	-0.4	10.7
07.2.4Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	2.71	100.88	100.49	101.81	1.3	0.9
07.3.2Passenger transport by road	13.12	100.00	120.71	120.65	-0.1	20.7
07.3.3Passenger transport by air	0.24	98.62	113.52	126.32	11.3	28.1
07.3.4Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.3.6Other Transport services	2.21	100.00	103.26	103.26	0.0	3.3
8.1.1Postal services	0.13	102.71	102.95	103.63	0.7	0.9
8.2.1Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3.1Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.1.1Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	35.84	106.05	112.90	113.11	0.2	6.7
9.1.2Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	5.91	101.06	98.45	98.45	0.0	-2.6
9.1.3Information processing equipment	0.33	104.81	114.80	114.80	0.0	9.5
9.1.5Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.31	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.3.1Games, toys and hobbies	0.29	113.25	117.50	117.49	0.0	3.7
09.3.2Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.3.3Gardens, plants and flowers	0.05	100.53	103.97	104.34	0.4	3.8
09.3.4Pets and related products	0.03	104.33	103.07	103.31	0.2	-1.0
09.3.5Veterinary and other services for pets	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.1Recreational and sport services	0.14	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.4.2Cultural services	3.06	100.33	103.50	103.50	0.0	3.2
09.4.3Games of chance	0.02	115.38	100.00	100.00	0.0	-13.3
09.5.1Books	3.37	100.21	102.43	103.03	0.6	2.8
09.5.2Newspapers and periodicals	0.61	102.29	110.22	111.34	1.0	8.9
09.5.3Miscellaneous printed matter	0.11	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
09.5.4Stationery and drawing materials	6.66	102.01	103.20	103.36	0.2	1.3
09.6.1Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) –October 2018**

	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Oct 17</b>	<b>Sep 18</b>	<b>Index numbers Oct 18</b>	<b>% change</b>	
					<b>M%</b>	<b>Y%</b>
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	112.59	114.77	114.77	0.0	1.9
10.2.1Secondary education	20.19	109.41	111.83	111.83	0.0	2.2
10.3.1Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4.1Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5.1Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1.1Restaurants, caf��s and the like	7.27	101.69	104.27	104.80	0.5	3.1
11.1.2Canteens	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.2.1Accommodation services	2.98	100.54	101.09	101.09	0.0	0.5
12.1.1Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	29.16	104.95	108.47	108.91	0.4	3.8
12.1.2Electrical appliances for personal care	0.19	99.75	98.81	98.81	0.0	-0.9
12.1.3Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	9.55	103.99	107.08	107.19	0.1	3.1
12.3.1Jewellery, clocks and watches	0.30	100.11	100.00	100.00	0.0	-0.1
12.3.2Other personal effects	6.80	101.65	104.52	105.39	0.8	3.7
12.4.1Social Protection services	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.2Insurance connected with dwelling	0.91	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.3Insurance connected with health	2.37	100.00	103.30	103.30	0.0	3.3
12.5.4Insurance connected with transport	3.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6.2Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7.1Other services n.e.c	13.23	100.77	102.57	102.57	0.0	1.8

## **Annex 2: Explanations and Technical Notes**

The CPI has been rebased and the new reference period is December 2016. The linking factor was estimated and the indices from December 2016 and the months preceding December were multiplied by this factor. The resulting indices were then multiplied by 100/ December Index.

The formula used in calculating the price indices is Modified Laspeyres index formula with elementary price indices being calculated using geometric mean. The officially accepted method of measuring inflation rate in Lesotho is the index for the current month compared with that of the corresponding month in the previous year.

$$\{(I_c/I_p)-1\} \times 100 = \text{Inflation rate}$$

Where:         $I_c$  = index for the current month,  
                   $I_p$  = index for the same month in the previous year.

Bureau of Statistics (BOS) recommends this method over others for estimating the annual inflation rate. This method tends to eliminate any possible seasonal effects, since the indices for the corresponding months are compared. However, it should be borne in mind that inflation rate calculated according to this method fluctuates considerably.

Goods and services are classified according to Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose -International Comparison Programme (COICOP-ICP).

The weights are calculated on the basis of the 2010/11 Household Budget Survey (HBS). The CPI results are published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month of data collection. Additional and more detailed information is also available from the BOS website: [www.bos.gov.ls](http://www.bos.gov.ls), Email address: [economics@bos.gov.ls](mailto:economics@bos.gov.ls) and or at BOS Library.

### Annex 3: Areas where monthly price data are collected

DISTRICT	AREA: URBAN	AREA: RURAL
1. Butha-Buthe	Butha-Buthe	Malelefiloane Tsime Qholaqhoe Ha Molapo Manamela Qalo Muela Khukhune Ha Selomo Seboche
2. Leribe	Hlotse Maputsoe	Ha Lejone Pitseng Peka Kolonyama
3. Berea	Teya-Teyaneng	Mamathe Mapoteng Makhoroana Sefikeng Khotsi's Ha Rakoto Ha Koali
4. Maseru	Maseru Semonkong	Roma Nazareth Moriya Matsieng Mants'ebo Ramabanta
5. Mafeteng	Mafeteng	Van Rooyen's Ts'akholo Kolo Ts'ita's Nek Ramatseliso Motsekuoa Ha Makhakhe Matelile ha Seeiso Mount Tabor Thabana Morena Ha Khobotle Thaba Ts'oeu
6. Mohale's Hoek	Mohale's hoek	Phamong Holy Cross Masemousu Mpharane

7. Quthing	Moyeni	A' skop Mount Moorosi Mphaki
8. Qhacha's Nek	Qhacha's Nek	Sehlabathebe Ha Ramatseliso Ha Sekake White hill Ha Mpiti
9. Mokhotlong	Mokhotlong	Tlokoeng Mapholaneng Janteu Linakaneng Tlhanyaku phahameng
10. Thaba-Tseka	Thaba-Tseka	Mantsonyane Sehonghong Mashai katse





Kingdom of Lesotho



**Statistical Report  
No.43: 2018**

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
November 2018**



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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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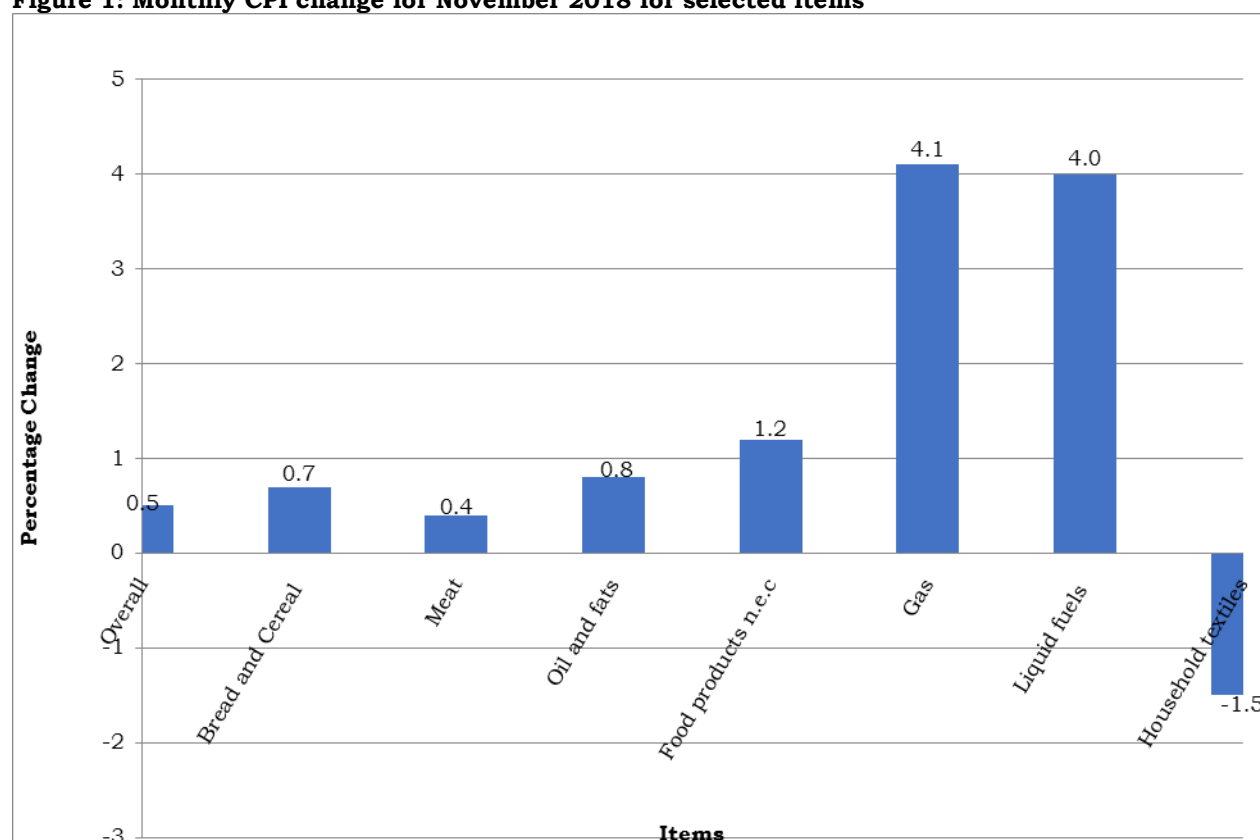
## 1. Introduction

This report presents the Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for November 2018 for Lesotho. The CPI is an indicator that shows changes in the cost of buying a fixed bundle of consumer goods and services as determined for the base period. In this report, CPI is calculated on monthly basis; thus, CPI is calculated comparing the prices of the current month with the prices of the previous month. Prices are collected every month in twelve urban areas and about seventy selected rural areas of Lesotho by personal visits to the outlets. About 40000 price quotations are collected in about 800 outlets for about 350 commodity items.

## 2. Monthly Consumer Price Index

This section covers the monthly price change for Lesotho. As depicted by Figure 1, the overall monthly CPI change for November 2018 is 0.5 percent which shows no change from the index level observed in October 2018. The overall CPI measures a change in the index level for all items in November 2018 compared to the index level for all items in October 2018. The observed increase in monthly price indices was recorded for the following classes with their respective percentages: Bread and cereals with 0.7 percent, Meat with 0.4 percent, Oil and fats with 0.8 percent, Food products n.e.c with 1.2 percent, Gas with 4.1 percent, as well as Liquid fuels with 4.0. However, the increases in monthly price indices were counteracted by a decline of 1.5 percent for Household textiles.

**Figure 1: Monthly CPI change for November 2018 for selected items**



The large monthly increases in the classes mentioned above were observed in the price indices of the following specific commodity items: Maize Meal, Bread flour, Mutton, Pork, Edible Oil, Other edible animal fats, Soups, Custard, Gas, as well as Paraffin.

### **3. Annual Inflation Rate**

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 annual inflation rate in this report is computed by comparing the CPI level of November 2018 to that of November 2017. The annual inflation rate is estimated at 5.6 percent (see Table 1) which shows 0.3 percentage points increase from the rate observed in October 2018.

The divisions, which showed a significant annual increase in the inflation rate were: Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (5.2 percent), Clothing and footwear (2.5 percent), Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas (14.3 percent), Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (2.9 percent), Transport (11.3 percent) and Recreation and culture (4.9percent), (see Table 1).

The following groups had a contribution to the annual increase: Food with 5.2 Percent, Alcohol with 6.2 percent, Clothing with 3.0 percent, Electricity, Gas and other fuels with 21.2 percent, Operation of personal transport with 10.3 percent, as well as Transport services with 18.3 percent (See Table 2).

### **4. Services and Commodities Indices**

Services and commodities (disaggregated into Non-durables, semi durables and durables) indices are presented in this section. The services index is derived by aggregating all the services indices. Non-durables, semi durables and durable indices are calculated by aggregating all the Non-durables, semi durables and durables indices respectively.

The monthly increase was observed with the following percentages; Non- Durables with 0.7 percent while services showed no change. There was a decline of 0.1 percent by Semi- Durables as well as 0.3 percent by Durables. The annual inflation rates were 6.0, 3.7, 2.9 and 2.9 percent for Non-Durables, Durables, Services and Semi-Durables respectively (see Table 1).

## Annex 1: Tables

**Table 1: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Divisions –November 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Nov 17	Oct 18	Nov 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000</b>	104.17	109.46	110.00	0.5	5.6
01. Food &Non-alcoholic beverages	361.13	105.17	109.98	110.62	0.6	5.2
02. Alcohol and Tobacco	33.31	105.46	110.92	111.64	0.7	5.9
03. Clothing &Footwear	130.57	101.23	103.72	103.75	0.0	2.5
04. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	123.97	106.30	119.20	121.55	2.0	14.3
05. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	84.77	103.84	107.19	106.85	-0.3	2.9
06 Health	15.04	100.21	101.19	101.25	0.1	1.0
07. Transport	48.21	102.21	113.47	113.73	0.2	11.3
08 Communications	21.05	100.02	100.02	100.02	0.0	0.0
09. Recreation and culture	57.08	103.76	109.13	108.82	-0.3	4.9
10. Education	42.00	106.85	108.30	108.30	0.0	1.4
11. Restaurants and Hotels	10.30	101.40	103.70	103.77	0.1	2.3
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	72.59	103.09	106.06	106.30	0.2	3.1
<b>Services</b>	<b>200.05</b>	<b>102.45</b>	<b>105.40</b>	<b>105.45</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2.9</b>
<b>Non-durables</b>	<b>549.99</b>	<b>99.46</b>	<b>104.75</b>	<b>105.46</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>6.0</b>
<b>Semi durables</b>	<b>168.56</b>	<b>101.59</b>	<b>104.61</b>	<b>104.53</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>2.9</b>
<b>Durables</b>	<b>81.40</b>	<b>103.45</b>	<b>107.54</b>	<b>107.23</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>3.7</b>

**Table 2: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups – November 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Nov 17	Oct 18	Nov 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	104.17	109.46	110.00	0.5	5.6
01.1Food	348.52	105.16	109.99	110.64	0.6	5.2
01.2Non alcoholic beverages	12.61	105.51	109.78	110.15	0.3	4.4
02.1Alcohol	28.28	105.51	111.34	112.08	0.7	6.2
02.2Tobacco	5.03	105.19	108.53	109.18	0.6	3.8
03.1Clothing	90.26	100.87	103.95	103.90	0.0	3.0
03.2Footwear	40.31	102.05	103.23	103.43	0.2	1.4
04.1Actual rentals for housing	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2Imputed rent for housing	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3Maintanance and repair of dwelling	8.03	100.91	102.55	102.73	0.2	1.8
04.4Water and miscellaneous services relating to dwelling	4.38	102.46	109.05	109.05	0.0	6.4
04.5Electricity, Gas and other fuels	79.33	109.60	129.23	132.87	2.8	21.2
05.1Furniture and furnishings	18.87	103.39	105.31	104.88	-0.4	1.4
05.2Household textiles	11.95	111.81	124.36	122.44	-1.5	9.5
05.3Houseould appliances	4.56	102.68	105.41	105.36	0.0	2.6
05.4Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.61	101.41	101.44	0.0	0.8
05.5Tools and equipment for house and garden	7.08	100.01	100.06	100.09	0.0	0.1
05.6Goods and services for routine household maintenance	36.93	102.85	105.02	105.09	0.1	2.2
06.1Medical products, appliances and equipment	7.68	100.17	101.24	101.20	0.0	1.0
06.2Out-patient services	1.89	100.97	104.39	105.10	0.7	4.1
06.3Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1Purchase of vehicles	8.73	101.41	102.96	103.27	0.3	1.8
7.2Operation of personal transport	23.87	103.96	114.21	114.61	0.4	10.3
7.3Transport services	15.60	99.98	118.23	118.23	0.0	18.3
8.1Postal services	0.13	102.64	103.63	103.63	0.0	1.0
8.2Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.1Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	42.39	104.57	110.99	110.54	-0.4	5.7
9.3Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	0.47	107.69	111.45	111.93	0.4	3.9
9.4Recreational and cultural services	3.22	100.41	103.33	103.33	0.0	2.9
9.5 Newspapers, books and stationery	10.74	101.47	103.68	103.78	0.1	2.3
09.6Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	112.59	114.77	114.77	0.0	1.9
10.2Secondary education	20.19	109.66	111.83	111.83	0.0	2.0
10.3Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1Catering services	7.32	101.71	104.76	104.86	0.1	3.1
11.2Accommodation services	2.98	100.64	101.09	101.09	0.0	0.4
12.1Personal care	38.90	104.79	108.44	108.75	0.3	3.8
12.3Personal effects	7.10	101.58	105.16	105.89	0.7	4.2
12.4Social Protection	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5Insurance	6.31	100.00	101.24	101.24	0.0	1.2
12.6Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7Other services	13.23	100.77	102.57	102.57	0.0	1.8

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – November 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers		Nov 18	% change	
		Nov 17	Oct 18		M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	104.17	109.46	110.00	0.5	5.6
01.1.1Bread and cereals	138.36	100.09	104.08	104.83	0.7	4.7
01.1.2Meat	49.04	113.03	123.00	123.49	0.4	9.3
01.1.3Fish	6.73	103.29	110.00	111.29	1.2	7.7
01.1.4Milk, cheese and eggs	22.05	106.45	109.85	109.97	0.1	3.3
01.1.5Oils and fats	43.96	104.04	106.61	107.48	0.8	3.3
01.1.6Fruit	2.02	105.67	112.82	113.10	0.3	7.0
01.1.7Vegetables	46.40	112.31	117.27	117.43	0.1	4.6
01.1.8Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	22.15	106.57	110.48	111.30	0.7	4.4
01.1.9Food products n.e.c.	17.82	104.39	108.74	110.04	1.2	5.4
01.2.1Coffee, tea and cocoa	6.41	107.81	113.15	113.62	0.4	5.4
01.2.2Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	6.21	103.13	106.30	106.58	0.3	3.3
02.1.1Spirits	0.67	102.78	106.61	107.00	0.4	4.1
02.1.2Wine	2.18	101.40	104.72	105.20	0.5	3.7
02.1.3Beer	25.42	105.93	112.03	112.80	0.7	6.5
02.2.1Tobacco	5.03	105.19	108.53	109.18	0.6	3.8
03.1.1Clothing materials	0.78	100.00	107.58	108.34	0.7	8.3
03.1.2Garments	80.75	100.91	103.47	103.39	-0.1	2.5
03.1.3Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	8.66	100.53	108.03	108.18	0.1	7.6
03.1.4Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.06	101.48	106.77	107.51	0.7	5.9
03.2.1Shoes and other footwear	40.07	102.06	103.23	103.43	0.2	1.3
03.2.2Repair and hire of footwear	0.24	101.32	102.61	103.49	0.9	2.1
04.1.1Actual rentals paid by tenants	2.49	100.59	100.59	100.59	0.0	0.0
04.2.1Imputed rentals of owner-occupiers	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3.1Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	4.82	101.52	104.25	104.55	0.3	3.0
04.3.2Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.1Water supply	3.27	103.29	112.12	112.12	0.0	8.5
04.4.2Refuse collection	0.08	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.3Sewerage services	0.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.4Other services relating to the dwelling	0.83	100.04	100.04	100.04	0.0	0.0
04.5.1Electricity	15.26	103.44	111.06	111.06	0.0	7.4
04.5.2Gas	22.50	105.92	127.61	132.87	4.1	25.4
04.5.3Liquid fuels	28.55	117.57	150.91	156.87	4.0	33.4
04.5.4Solid fuels	28.55	117.57	150.91	156.87	4.0	33.4
05.1.1Furniture and furnishings	18.46	103.46	105.40	104.97	-0.4	1.5
05.1.2Carpets and other floor coverings	0.38	100.42	101.03	101.02	0.0	0.6
05.1.3Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.04	100.00	102.46	102.46	0.0	2.5
05.2.1Household textiles	11.95	111.81	124.36	122.44	-1.5	9.5
05.3.1Major household appliances whether electric or not	3.94	103.06	106.10	105.95	-0.1	2.8

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) November 2018**

	Weight	Nov17	Oct 18	Index numbers		% change	
				Nov 18		M%	Y%
05.3.2Small electric household appliances	0.61	100.29	101.03	101.60		0.6	1.3
05.3.3Repair of household appliances	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
05.4.1Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.61	101.41	101.44		0.0	0.8
05.5.1Major tools and equipment	5.58	99.84	99.67	99.67		0.0	-0.2
05.5.2Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1.50	100.64	101.55	101.65		0.1	1.0
05.6.1Non-durable household goods	34.07	103.09	105.44	105.52		0.1	2.4
05.6.2Domestic services and home care services	2.86	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
06.1.1Pharmaceutical products	4.80	100.26	101.14	101.07		-0.1	0.8
06.1.2Other medical products	0.61	100.39	100.98	101.03		0.0	0.6
06.1.3Therapeutic appliances and equipment	2.26	99.92	101.51	101.51		0.0	1.6
06.2.1Medical Services	1.09	101.69	107.59	108.43		0.8	6.6
06.2.2Dental services	0.13	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
06.2.3Paramedical services	0.67	100.00	100.00	100.65		0.7	0.7
06.3.1Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
07.1.1Motor cars	7.89	101.49	103.21	103.55		0.3	2.0
07.1.3Bicycles	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
07.1.4Animal drawn vehicles	0.78	100.70	100.70	100.70		0.0	0.0
07.2.1Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	8.40	102.04	101.30	101.36		0.1	-0.7
07.2.2Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	9.39	106.97	129.49	130.68		0.9	22.2
07.2.3Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	3.37	102.82	113.79	113.18		-0.5	10.1
07.2.4Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	2.71	100.88	101.81	101.81		0.0	0.9
07.3.2Passenger transport by road	13.12	100.00	120.65	120.65		0.0	20.7
07.3.3Passenger transport by air	0.24	98.41	126.32	126.32		0.0	28.3
07.3.4Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
07.3.6Other Transport services	2.21	100.00	103.26	103.26		0.0	3.3
8.1.1Postal services	0.13	102.64	103.63	103.63		0.0	1.0
8.2.1Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
8.3.1Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
9.1.1Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	35.84	105.70	113.11	112.58		-0.5	6.5
9.1.2Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	5.91	97.86	98.45	98.45		0.0	0.6
9.1.3Information processing equipment	0.33	105.85	114.80	114.80		0.0	8.5
9.1.5Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.31	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
9.3.1Games, toys and hobbies	0.29	111.82	117.49	118.29		0.7	5.8
09.3.2Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
09.3.3Gardens, plants and flowers	0.05	101.16	104.34	104.38		0.0	3.2
09.3.4Pets and related products	0.03	104.11	103.31	103.08		-0.2	-1.0
09.3.5Veterinary and other services for pets	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
09.4.1Recreational and sport services	0.14	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
09.4.2Cultural services	3.06	100.33	103.50	103.50		0.0	3.2
09.4.3Games of chance	0.02	115.38	100.00	100.00		0.0	-13.3
09.5.1Books	3.37	100.37	103.03	102.74		-0.3	2.4
09.5.2Newspapers and periodicals	0.61	102.29	111.34	111.96		0.6	9.5
09.5.3Miscellaneous printed matter	0.11	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
09.5.4Stationery and drawing materials	6.66	101.98	103.36	103.62		0.3	1.6
09.6.1Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0



**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) –November 2018**

	Weight	Nov 17	Oct 18	Index numbers Nov 18	% change M%	% change Y%
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	112.59	114.77	114.77	0.0	1.9
10.2.1Secondary education	20.19	109.66	111.83	111.83	0.0	2.0
10.3.1Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4.1Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5.1Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1.1Restaurants, cafés and the like	7.27	101.72	104.80	104.89	0.1	3.1
11.1.2Canteens	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.2.1Accommodation services	2.98	100.64	101.09	101.09	0.0	0.4
12.1.1Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	29.16	104.96	108.91	109.24	0.3	4.1
12.1.2Electrical appliances for personal care	0.19	99.75	98.81	98.75	-0.1	-1.0
12.1.3Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	9.55	104.36	107.19	107.45	0.2	3.0
12.3.1Jewellery, clocks and watches	0.30	100.11	100.00	100.00	0.0	-0.1
12.3.2Other personal effects	6.80	101.65	105.39	106.15	0.7	4.4
12.4.1Social Protection services	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.2Insurance connected with dwelling	0.91	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.3Insurance connected with health	2.37	100.00	103.30	103.30	0.0	3.3
12.5.4Insurance connected with transport	3.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6.2Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7.1Other services n.e.c	13.23	100.77	102.57	102.57	0.0	1.8

## **Annex 2: Explanations and Technical Notes**

The CPI has been rebased and the new reference period is December 2016. The linking factor was estimated and the indices from December 2016 and the months preceding December were multiplied by this factor. The resulting indices were then multiplied by 100/ December Index.

The formula used in calculating the price indices is Modified Laspeyres index formula with elementary price indices being calculated using geometric mean. The officially accepted method of measuring inflation rate in Lesotho is the index for the current month compared with that of the corresponding month in the previous year.

$$\{(I_c/I_p)-1\} \times 100 = \text{Inflation rate}$$

Where:         $I_c$  = index for the current month,  
                   $I_p$  = index for the same month in the previous year.

Bureau of Statistics (BOS) recommends this method over others for estimating the annual inflation rate. This method tends to eliminate any possible seasonal effects, since the indices for the corresponding months are compared. However, it should be borne in mind that inflation rate calculated according to this method fluctuates considerably.

Goods and services are classified according to Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose -International Comparison Programme (COICOP-ICP).

The weights are calculated on the basis of the 2010/11 Household Budget Survey (HBS). The CPI results are published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month of data collection. Additional and more detailed information is also available from the BOS website: [www.bos.gov.ls](http://www.bos.gov.ls), Email address: [economics@bos.gov.ls](mailto:economics@bos.gov.ls) and or at BOS Library.

### Annex 3: Areas where monthly price data are collected

DISTRICT	AREA: URBAN	AREA: RURAL
1. Butha-Buthe	Butha-Buthe	Malelefiloane Tsime Qholaqhoe Ha Molapo Manamela Qalo Muela Khukhune Ha Selomo Seboche
2. Leribe	Hlotse Maputsoe	Ha Lejone Pitseng Peka Kolonyama
3. Berea	Teya-Teyaneng	Mamathe Mapoteng Makhoroana Sefikeng Khotsi's Ha Rakoto Ha Koali
4. Maseru	Maseru Semonkong	Roma Nazareth Moriya Matsieng Mants'ebo Ramabanta
5. Mafeteng	Mafeteng	Van Rooyen's Ts'akhlo Kolo Ts'ita's Nek Ramatseliso Motsekuoa Ha Makhakhe Matelile ha Seeiso Mount Tabor Thabana Morena Ha Khobotle Thaba Ts'oeu
6. Mohale's Hoek	Mohale's hoek	Phamong Holy Cross Masemousu

		Mpharane
7. Quthing	Moyeni	A' skop Mount Moorosi Mphaki
8. Qhacha's Nek	Qhacha's Nek	Sehlabathebe Ha Ramatseliso Ha Sekake White hill Ha Mpiti
9. Mokhotlong	Mokhotlong	Tlokoeng Mapholaneng Janteu Linakaneng Tlhanyaku phahameng
10.Thaba-Tseka	Thaba-Tseka	Mantsonyane Sehonghong Mashai katse



Kingdom of Lesotho



**Statistical Report  
No.1:2019**

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
December 2018**



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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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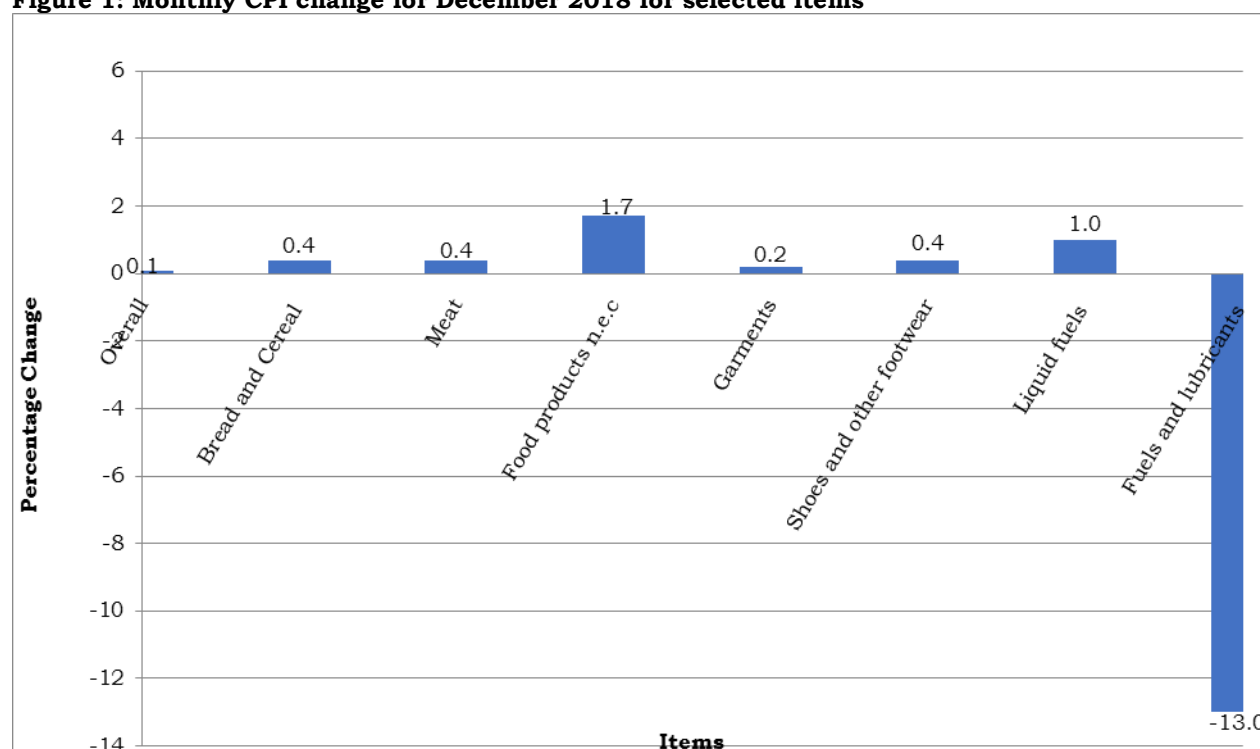
## 1. Introduction

This report presents the Consumer Price Indices (CPI) for December 2018 for Lesotho. The CPI is an indicator that shows changes in the cost of buying a fixed bundle of consumer goods and services as determined for the base period. In this report, CPI is calculated on monthly basis; thus, CPI is calculated comparing the prices of the current month with the prices of the previous month. Prices are collected every month in twelve urban areas and about seventy selected rural areas of Lesotho by personal visits to the outlets. About 40000 price quotations are collected in about 800 outlets for about 350 commodity items.

## 2. Monthly Consumer Price Index

This section covers the monthly price change for Lesotho. As depicted by Figure 1, the overall monthly CPI change for December 2018 is 0.1 percent which shows 0.4 percentage points decrease from the index level observed in November 2018. The overall CPI measures a change in the index level for all items in December 2018 compared to the index level for all items in November 2018. The observed increase in monthly price indices was recorded for the following classes with their respective percentages: Bread and cereals with 0.4 percent, Meat with 0.4 percent, Food products n.e.c with 1.7 percent, Garments with 0.2 percent, Shoes and other footwear with 0.4 percent as well as Liquid fuels with 1.0 percent. However, the increases in monthly price indices were counteracted by a decline of 13.0 percent for Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment.

**Figure 1: Monthly CPI change for December 2018 for selected items**



The large monthly increases in the classes mentioned above were observed in the price indices of the following specific commodity items: Cake flour, Wheat meal, Minced meat, Beef, Jelly, Spices and culinary, Blouses, Pants, Girls school shoes, Boys sports shoes as well as Paraffin.

### **3. Annual Inflation Rate**

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 annual inflation rate in this report is computed by comparing the CPI level of December 2018 to that of December 2017. The annual inflation rate is estimated at 5.4 percent (see Table 1) which shows 0.2 percentage points decrease from the rate observed in November 2018.

The divisions, which showed a significant annual increase in the inflation rate were: Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (5.3 percent), Clothing and footwear (2.7 percent), Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas (14.0 percent), Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (3.1 percent), Transport (6.7 percent) and Recreation and culture (5.3 percent) (see Table 1).

The following groups had a contribution to the annual increase: Food with 5.3 Percent, Alcohol with 5.2 percent, Clothing with 3.1 percent, Electricity, Gas and other fuels with 20.5 percent, Transport services with 18.2 percent as well as Personal care with 3.8 (See Table 2).

### **4. Services and Commodities Indices**

Services and commodities (disaggregated into Non-durables, semi durables and durables) indices are presented in this section. The services index is derived by aggregating all the services indices. Non-durables, semi durables and durable indices are calculated by aggregating all the Non-durables, semi durables and durables indices respectively.

The monthly increase was observed with the following percentages; Durables with 0.6, Semi- Durables with 0.3 while Non- Durables and Services showed no change. The annual inflation rates were 5.5, 4.0, 3.2 and 2.9 percent for Non-Durables, Durables, Semi-Durables and Services respectively (see Table 1).



## Annex 1: Tables

**Table 1: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Divisions –December 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Dec 17	Nov 18	Dec 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>104.49</b>	<b>110.00</b>	<b>110.15</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>5.4</b>
01. Food &Non-alcoholic beverages	361.13	105.44	110.62	111.00	0.3	5.3
02. Alcohol and Tobacco	33.31	106.51	111.64	111.87	0.2	5.0
03. Clothing &Footwear	130.57	101.30	103.75	104.08	0.3	2.7
04. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	123.97	106.97	121.55	121.92	0.3	14.0
05. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	84.77	103.84	106.85	107.03	0.2	3.1
06 Health	15.04	100.19	101.25	101.41	0.2	1.2
07. Transport	48.21	103.59	113.73	110.48	-2.9	6.7
08 Communications	21.05	100.01	100.02	100.02	0.0	0.0
09. Recreation and culture	57.08	104.27	108.82	109.78	0.9	5.3
10. Education	42.00	106.85	108.30	108.30	0.0	1.4
11. Restaurants and Hotels	10.30	101.65	103.77	103.84	0.1	2.2
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	72.59	103.10	106.30	106.32	0.0	3.1
<b>Services</b>	<b>200.05</b>	<b>102.44</b>	<b>105.45</b>	<b>105.45</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>2.9</b>
<b>Non-durables</b>	<b>549.99</b>	<b>99.91</b>	<b>105.46</b>	<b>105.45</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>5.5</b>
<b>Semi durables</b>	<b>168.56</b>	<b>101.64</b>	<b>104.53</b>	<b>104.88</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>3.2</b>
<b>Durables</b>	<b>81.40</b>	<b>103.77</b>	<b>107.23</b>	<b>107.89</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>4.0</b>

**Table 2: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups – December 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Dec 17	Nov 18	Dec 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	104.49	110.00	110.15	0.1	5.4
01.1Food	348.52	105.43	110.64	111.02	0.3	5.3
01.2Non alcoholic beverages	12.61	105.73	110.15	110.48	0.3	4.5
02.1Alcohol	28.28	106.70	112.08	112.29	0.2	5.2
02.2Tobacco	5.03	105.42	109.18	109.56	0.4	3.9
03.1Clothing	90.26	101.07	103.90	104.17	0.3	3.1
03.2Footwear	40.31	101.81	103.43	103.88	0.4	2.0
04.1Actual rentals for housing	2.49	100.59	100.59	101.07	0.5	0.5
04.2Imputed rent for housing	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3Maintanance and repair of dwelling	8.03	100.93	102.73	102.80	0.1	1.9
04.4Water and miscellaneous services relating to dwelling	4.38	101.21	109.05	109.05	0.0	7.7
04.5Electricity, Gas and other fuels	79.33	110.71	132.87	133.44	0.4	20.5
05.1Furniture and furnishings	18.87	103.61	104.88	104.89	0.0	1.2
05.2Household textiles	11.95	111.83	122.44	123.46	0.8	10.4
05.3Houseould appliances	4.56	101.37	105.36	105.19	-0.2	3.8
05.4Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.58	101.44	101.57	0.1	1.0
05.5Tools and equipment for house and garden	7.08	99.98	100.09	100.24	0.2	0.3
05.6Goods and services for routine household maintenance	36.93	102.90	105.09	105.13	0.0	2.2
06.1Medical products, appliances and equipment	7.68	100.13	101.20	101.50	0.3	1.4
06.2Out-patient services	1.89	100.97	105.10	105.10	0.0	4.1
06.3Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
07.1Purchase of vehicles	8.73	101.41	103.27	103.43	0.2	2.0
7.2Operation of personal transport	23.87	106.74	114.61	108.00	-5.8	1.2
7.3Transport services	15.60	99.99	118.23	118.23	0.0	18.2
8.1Postal services	0.13	101.56	103.63	103.63	0.0	2.0
8.2Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
8.3Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
9.1Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	42.39	105.22	110.54	111.77	1.1	6.2
9.3Other recreational items and equipment, gardens and pets	0.47	107.72	111.93	110.97	-0.9	3.0
9.4Recreational and cultural services	3.22	100.41	103.33	103.33	0.0	2.9
9.5 Newspapers, books and stationery	10.74	101.60	103.78	104.05	0.3	2.4
09.6Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	112.59	114.77	114.77	0.0	1.9
10.2Secondary education	20.19	109.66	111.83	111.83	0.0	2.0
10.3Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1Catering services	7.32	102.01	104.86	104.88	0.0	2.8
11.2Accommodation services	2.98	100.75	101.09	101.30	0.2	0.5
12.1Personal care	38.90	104.80	108.75	108.79	0.0	3.8
12.3Personal effects	7.10	101.58	105.89	105.89	0.0	4.2
12.4Social Protection	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5Insurance	6.31	100.00	101.24	101.24	0.0	1.2
12.6Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7Other services	13.23	100.77	102.57	102.57	0.0	1.8

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes – December 2018**

	Weight	Index numbers			% change	
		Dec 17	Nov 18	Dec 18	M%	Y%
<b>Overall CPI</b>	<b>1000.00</b>	104.49	110.00	110.15	0.1	5.4
01.1.1Bread and cereals	138.36	99.68	104.83	105.22	0.4	5.6
01.1.2Meat	49.04	114.27	123.49	123.99	0.4	8.5
01.1.3Fish	6.73	105.30	111.29	111.67	0.3	6.0
01.1.4Milk, cheese and eggs	22.05	107.08	109.97	109.94	0.0	2.7
01.1.5Oils and fats	43.96	104.05	107.48	107.76	0.3	3.6
01.1.6Fruit	2.02	106.79	113.10	113.56	0.4	6.3
01.1.7Vegetables	46.40	113.40	117.43	117.25	-0.2	3.4
01.1.8Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	22.15	106.66	111.30	111.91	0.5	4.9
01.1.9Food products n.e.c.	17.82	104.67	110.04	111.86	1.7	6.9
01.2.1Coffee, tea and cocoa	6.41	108.11	113.62	114.19	0.5	5.6
01.2.2Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	6.21	103.28	106.58	106.64	0.1	3.3
02.1.1Spirits	0.67	103.25	107.00	107.17	0.2	3.8
02.1.2Wine	2.18	101.62	105.20	105.45	0.2	3.8
02.1.3Beer	25.42	107.23	112.80	113.01	0.2	5.4
02.2.1Tobacco	5.03	105.42	109.18	109.56	0.4	3.9
03.1.1Clothing materials	0.78	101.69	108.34	108.34	0.0	6.5
03.1.2Garments	80.75	101.02	103.39	103.63	0.2	2.6
03.1.3Other articles of clothing and clothing accessories	8.66	101.51	108.18	108.79	0.6	7.2
03.1.4Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	0.06	102.62	107.51	107.51	0.0	4.8
03.2.1Shoes and other footwear	40.07	101.81	103.43	103.88	0.4	2.0
03.2.2Repair and hire of footwear	0.24	101.71	103.49	103.33	-0.2	1.6
04.1.1Actual rentals paid by tenants	2.49	100.59	100.59	101.07	0.5	0.5
04.2.1Imputed rentals of owner-occupiers	29.73	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.3.1Materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	4.82	101.55	104.55	104.67	0.1	3.1
04.3.2Services for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.1Water supply	3.27	103.29	112.12	112.12	0.0	8.5
04.4.2Refuse collection	0.08	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.3Sewerage services	0.21	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
04.4.4Other services relating to the dwelling	0.83	93.38	100.04	100.04	0.0	7.1
04.5.1Electricity	15.26	103.44	111.06	111.06	0.0	7.4
04.5.2Gas	22.50	108.11	132.87	132.95	0.1	23.0
04.5.3Liquid fuels	28.55	118.94	156.87	158.41	1.0	33.2
04.5.4Solid fuels	28.55	118.94	156.87	158.41	1.0	33.2
05.1.1Furniture and furnishings	18.46	103.68	104.97	104.97	0.0	1.2
05.1.2Carpets and other floor coverings	0.38	100.32	101.02	101.02	0.0	0.7
05.1.3Repair of furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.04	100.00	102.46	102.46	0.0	2.5
05.2.1Household textiles	11.95	111.83	122.44	123.46	0.8	10.4
05.3.1Major household appliances whether electric or not	3.94	101.55	105.95	105.73	-0.2	4.1

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) December r 2018**

	Weight	Dec 17	Nov 18	Index numbers		% change	
				Dec 18		M%	Y%
05.3.2Small electric household appliances	0.61	100.26	101.60	101.71		0.1	1.4
05.3.3Repair of household appliances	0.01	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
05.4.1Glassware, tableware and household utensils	5.37	100.58	101.44	101.57		0.1	1.0
05.5.1Major tools and equipment	5.58	99.84	99.67	99.84		0.2	0.0
05.5.2Small tools and miscellaneous accessories	1.50	100.51	101.65	101.75		0.1	1.2
05.6.1Non-durable household goods	34.07	103.15	105.52	105.56		0.0	2.3
05.6.2Domestic services and home care services	2.86	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
06.1.1Pharmaceutical products	4.80	100.20	101.07	101.56		0.5	1.4
06.1.2Other medical products	0.61	100.34	101.03	100.98		-0.1	0.6
06.1.3Therapeutic appliances and equipment	2.26	99.92	101.51	101.51		0.0	1.6
06.2.1Medical Services	1.09	101.69	108.43	108.43		0.0	6.6
06.2.2Dental services	0.13	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
06.2.3Paramedical services	0.67	100.00	100.65	100.65		0.0	0.7
06.3.1Hospital services	5.47	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
07.1.1Motor cars	7.89	101.49	103.55	103.73		0.2	2.2
07.1.3Bicycles	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
07.1.4Animal drawn vehicles	0.78	100.70	100.70	100.70		0.0	0.0
07.2.1Spare parts and accessories for personal transport equipment	8.40	102.04	101.36	101.71		0.3	-0.3
07.2.2Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	9.39	114.05	130.68	113.67		-13.0	-0.3
07.2.3Maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment	3.37	102.82	113.18	112.85		-0.3	9.8
07.2.4Other services in respect of personal transport equipment	2.71	100.88	101.81	101.81		0.0	0.9
07.3.2Passenger transport by road	13.12	100.00	120.65	120.65		0.0	20.7
07.3.3Passenger transport by air	0.24	99.13	126.32	126.32		0.0	27.4
07.3.4Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
07.3.6Other Transport services	2.21	100.00	103.26	103.26		0.0	3.3
8.1.1Postal services	0.13	101.56	103.63	103.63		0.0	2.0
8.2.1Telephone and telefax equipment	1.73	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
8.3.1Telephone and telefax services	19.18	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
9.1.1Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	35.84	106.48	112.58	114.04		1.3	7.1
9.1.2Photographic and cinematographic equipment and optical instruments	5.91	97.86	98.45	98.45		0.0	0.6
9.1.3Information processing equipment	0.33	105.85	114.80	114.80		0.0	8.5
9.1.5Repair of audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	0.31	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
9.3.1Games, toys and hobbies	0.29	111.90	118.29	116.64		-1.4	4.2
09.3.2Equipment for sport, camping and open-air recreation	0.03	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
09.3.3Gardens, plants and flowers	0.05	101.16	104.38	104.73		0.3	3.5
09.3.4Pets and related products	0.03	103.92	103.08	103.33		0.2	-0.6
09.3.5Veterinary and other services for pets	0.07	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
09.4.1Recreational and sport services	0.14	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
09.4.2Cultural services	3.06	100.33	103.50	103.50		0.0	3.2
09.4.3Games of chance	0.02	115.38	100.00	100.00		0.0	-13.3
09.5.1Books	3.37	100.51	102.74	103.16		0.4	2.6
09.5.2Newspapers and periodicals	0.61	102.29	111.96	111.82		-0.1	9.3
09.5.3Miscellaneous printed matter	0.11	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0
09.5.4Stationery and drawing materials	6.66	102.12	103.62	103.85		0.2	1.7
09.6.1Package holidays	0.26	100.00	100.00	100.00		0.0	0.0

**Table 3: Monthly Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Classes (cont.) –December 2018**

	Weight	Dec 17	Nov 18	Index numbers Dec 18	% change M%	% change Y%
10.1.1Pre-primary and primary	6.58	112.59	114.77	114.77	0.0	1.9
10.2.1Secondary education	20.19	109.66	111.83	111.83	0.0	2.0
10.3.1Post secondary and non-tertiary fee	6.22	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
10.4.1Tertiary education	6.04	101.60	102.07	102.07	0.0	0.5
10.5.1Education not definable by level	2.96	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.1.1Restaurants, caf��s and the like	7.27	102.02	104.89	104.91	0.0	2.8
11.1.2Canteens	0.05	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
11.2.1Accommodation services	2.98	100.75	101.09	101.30	0.2	0.5
12.1.1Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments	29.16	104.95	109.24	109.24	0.0	4.1
12.1.2Electrical appliances for personal care	0.19	99.10	98.75	98.80	0.0	-0.3
12.1.3Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	9.55	104.47	107.45	107.63	0.2	3.0
12.3.1Jewellery, clocks and watches	0.30	100.11	100.00	100.00	0.0	-0.1
12.3.2Other personal effects	6.80	101.65	106.15	106.15	0.0	4.4
12.4.1Social Protection services	0.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.2Insurance connected with dwelling	0.91	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.5.3Insurance connected with health	2.37	100.00	103.30	103.30	0.0	3.3
12.5.4Insurance connected with transport	3.03	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0	0.0
12.6.2Financial services n.e.c	6.09	102.71	105.49	105.49	0.0	2.7
12.7.1Other services n.e.c	13.23	100.77	102.57	102.57	0.0	1.8

## **Annex 2: Explanations and Technical Notes**

The CPI has been rebased and the new reference period is December 2016. The linking factor was estimated and the indices from December 2016 and the months preceding December were multiplied by this factor. The resulting indices were then multiplied by 100/ December Index.

The formula used in calculating the price indices is Modified Laspeyres index formula with elementary price indices being calculated using geometric mean. The officially accepted method of measuring inflation rate in Lesotho is the index for the current month compared with that of the corresponding month in the previous year.

$$\{(I_c/I_p)-1\} \times 100 = \text{Inflation rate}$$

Where:         $I_c$  = index for the current month,  
                   $I_p$  = index for the same month in the previous year.

Bureau of Statistics (BOS) recommends this method over others for estimating the annual inflation rate. This method tends to eliminate any possible seasonal effects, since the indices for the corresponding months are compared. However, it should be borne in mind that inflation rate calculated according to this method fluctuates considerably.

Goods and services are classified according to Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose -International Comparison Programme (COICOP-ICP).

The weights are calculated on the basis of the 2010/11 Household Budget Survey (HBS). The CPI results are published on the 20th day of the month following the reference month of data collection. Additional and more detailed information is also available from the BOS website: [www.bos.gov.ls](http://www.bos.gov.ls), Email address: [economics@bos.gov.ls](mailto:economics@bos.gov.ls) and or at BOS Library.

### Annex 3: Areas where monthly price data are collected

DISTRICT	AREA: URBAN	AREA: RURAL
1. Butha-Buthe	Butha-Buthe	Malelefiloane Tsime Qholaqhoe Ha Molapo Manamela Qalo Muela Khukhune Ha Selomo Seboche
2. Leribe	Hlotse Maputsoe	Ha Lejone Pitseng Peka Kolonyama
3. Berea	Teya-Teyaneng	Mamathe Mapoteng Makhoroana Sefikeng Khotsi's Ha Rakoto Ha Koali
4. Maseru	Maseru Semonkong	Roma Nazareth Moriya Matsieng Mants'ebo Ramabanta
5. Mafeteng	Mafeteng	Van Rooyen's Ts'akholo Kolo Ts'ita's Nek Ramatseliso Motsekuoa Ha Makhakhe Matelile ha Seeiso Mount Tabor Thabana Morena Ha Khobotle Thaba Ts'oeu
6. Mohale's Hoek	Mohale's hoek	Phamong Holy Cross Masemousu

		Mpharane
7. Quthing	Moyeni	A' skop Mount Moorosi Mphaki
8. Qhacha's Nek	Qhacha's Nek	Sehlabathebe Ha Ramatseliso Ha Sekake White hill Ha Mpiti
9. Mokhotlong	Mokhotlong	Tlokoeng Mapholaneng Janteu Linakaneng Tlhanyaku phahameng
10.Thaba-Tseka	Thaba-Tseka	Mantsonyane Sehonghong Mashai katse