



SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY
TOWARDS A COMMON FUTURE

SADC Harmonised Consumer Price Indices (HCPI)

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The SADC Region registered annual inflation rate of 9.3% in February 2018 compared to February 2017 as measured by the HCPI. Month on Month inflation rate registered an increase of 0.9% in February 2018 compared to January 2018.

Introduction

This is the seventy-eighth issue in series since the launch of news releases on SADC HCPI initiative. It provides updates up to February 2018 on HCPI for SADC Member States.

Annual Inflation rates for SADC Member States

The reported annual inflation rates for February 2018 of SADC Member States indicate that two Member States have continued to record highest double-digit inflation rates since January 2017, as follows: Angola (23.8%) and DRC (51.9%) whilst Zambia registered negative inflation rate of 1.0% for the same period. The annual inflation rates for the rest of the other Member States were as follows: Botswana (2.5%), Lesotho (5.4%), Madagascar (8.5%), Mauritius (9.5%), Mozambique (2.4%), Namibia (4.4%), Seychelles (8.3%),

South Africa (4.1%), Swaziland (3.6%), Tanzania (4.1%) and Zimbabwe (2.6%), as reflected in table 2 below.

Compared to the SADC regional annual average inflation rate of 9.3% for February 2018, eleven SADC Member States recorded annual rates below the regional average whilst four Member States namely: Angola, DRC, Malawi and Mauritius registered rates higher than the regional average. See figure 3 below for more details.

Month on Month Inflation rates for SADC Member States

All SADC Member States registered increases in the month on month inflation rate in February 2018. The highest increase was registered by Malawi (1.4%) followed by Angola, DRC and Tanzania, all registering 1.1%.

Annual Inflation Rates by COICOP divisions

With regard to the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP) major divisions, four Divisions registered annual inflation less than the regional average of 9.3% in February 2018 compared to February 2017. These include Transport (5.0%), Education (7.1%), Communication (2.0%), and Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (7.3%). The remaining Divisions recorded annual rates of inflation above the SADC average of 9.3% with "Miscellaneous goods and Services" expenditure category registering highest increase of 16.9%. See table 4 below.

Month on Month Inflation Rates by COICOP divisions

All the Divisions recorded increases in the month on month inflation in February 2018, with the exception "Communication" registering no change. The highest increase was registered in "Miscellaneous goods and Services" expenditure category of 2.9%.

Figure 1: Month on month inflation rate (%) in SADC region for the period: February 2017 to February 2018

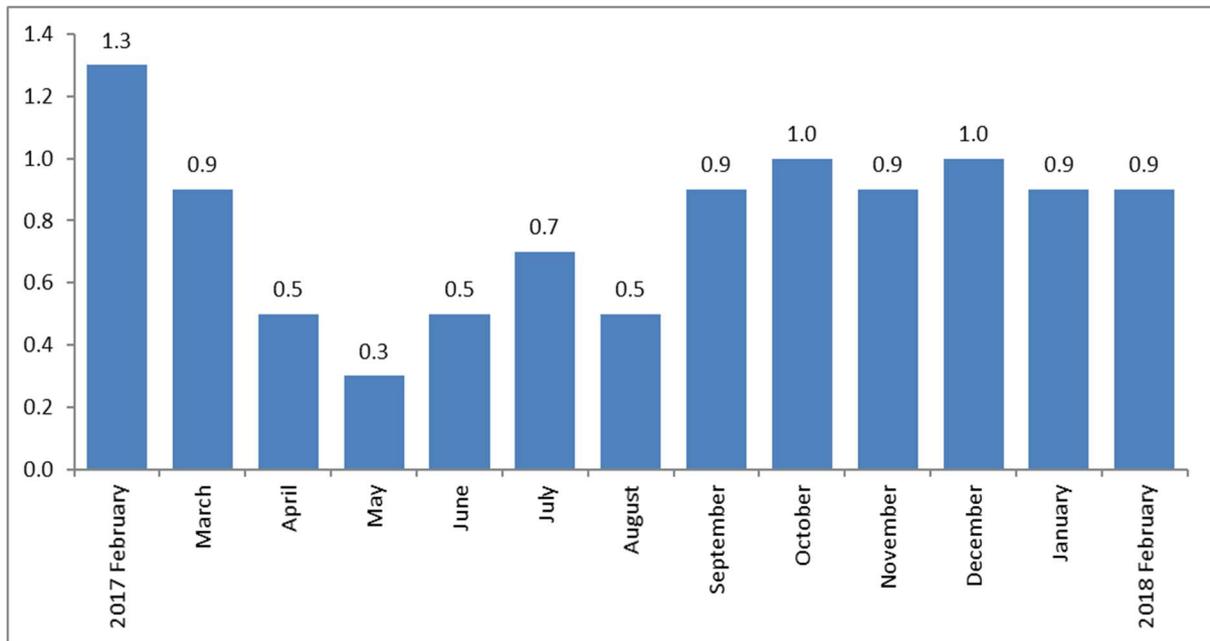


Figure 2: Annual inflation rate (%) in SADC region for the period: February 2017 to February 2018

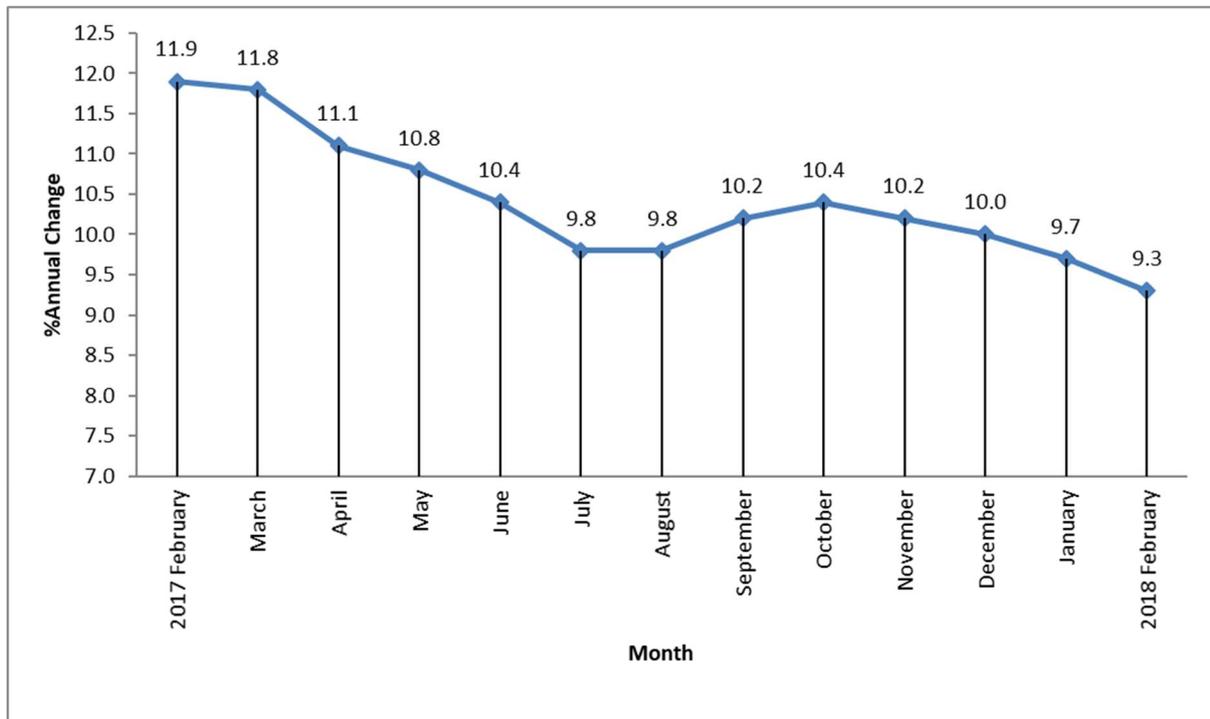


Figure 3: Annual inflation rate (%) for SADC region and SADC Member States as at February 2018

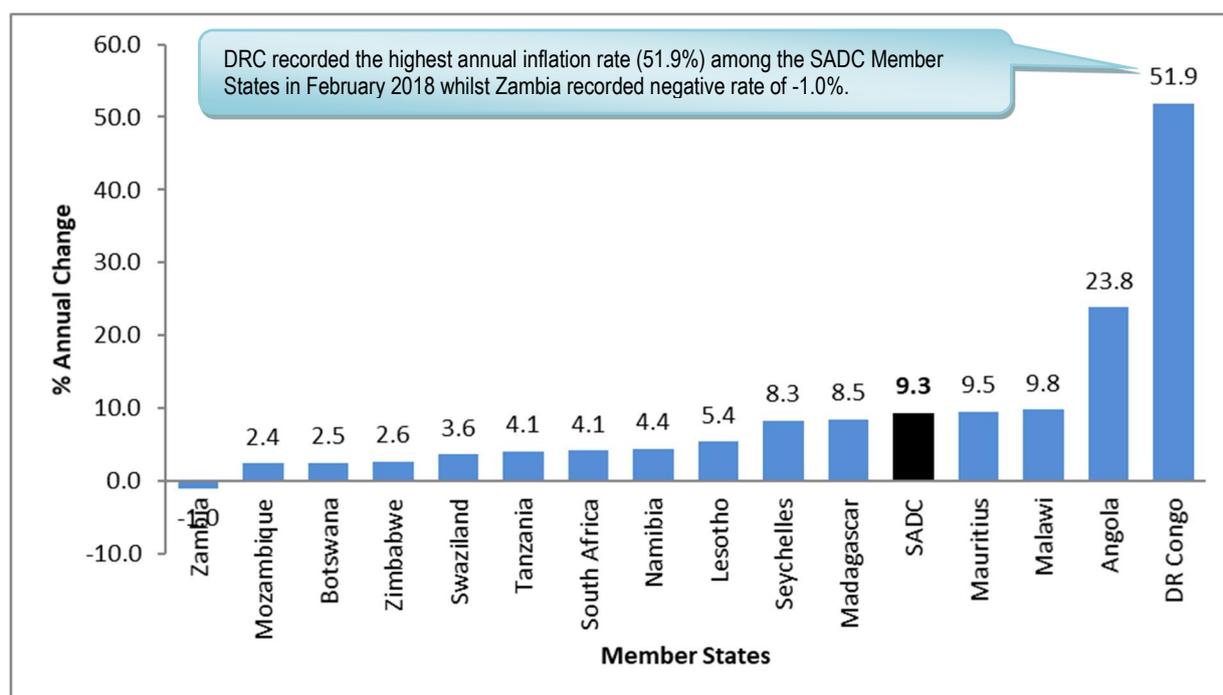


Table 1: Month on Month inflation rates (%) for SADC Member States as measured by National HCPIs, 2017-2018

| Member State | Country weights | Apr17 May17 | May17 June17 | June17 July17 | July17 Aug17 | Aug17 Sep17 | Sep17 Oct17 | Oct17 Nov17 | Nov17 Dec17 | Dec17 Jan18 | Jan17 Feb18 |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Angola | 10.87 | 1.1 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 1.4 | 3.1 | 2.8 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.1 |
| Botswana | 1.78 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | -0.2 | -0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.3 |
| Congo DR | 4.32 | 2.7 | 5.5 | 8.0 | 4.7 | 2.6 | 3.6 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 1.7 | 1.1 |
| Lesotho | 0.74 | 1.5 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| Madagascar | 4.10 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| Malawi | 2.20 | -2.8 | -0.2 | -1.4 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 2.1 | 3.4 | 5.6 | 4.5 | 1.4 |
| Mauritius | 2.11 | 0.4 | 0.3 | -0.9 | 0.0 | -0.6 | 1.3 | 3.9 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 0.3 |
| Mozambique | 3.03 | -0.5 | -1.3 | -0.6 | -0.1 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Namibia | 1.77 | 0.3 | 0.3 | -1.0 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.5 | -0.5 | 1.4 | 0.1 |
| Seychelles | 0.15 | 4.5 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.4 | 0.0 | 2.7 | 0.2 |
| South Africa | 55.34 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.8 |
| Swaziland | 1.00 | 0.3 | -0.3 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.7 |
| Tanzania | 6.87 | 0.2 | -0.1 | -0.2 | -0.4 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 1.1 |
| Zambia | 3.38 | -1.9 | 0.4 | -0.7 | -0.8 | 1.2 | -0.7 | 1.4 | -0.8 | 0.7 | 0.8 |
| Zimbabwe | 2.35 | 0.2 | -0.3 | -0.3 | -0.1 | 0.4 | 1.5 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| SADC | 100.00 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 |

Table 2: Annual inflation rates (%) for SADC Member States as measured by National HCPIs, 2017-2018

| Member State | Country weights | May16 May17 | June16 June17 | July16 July17 | Aug16 Aug17 | Sept16 Sept17 | Oct16 Oct17 | Nov16 Nov17 | Dec16 Dec17 | Jan17 Jan18 | Feb17 Feb18 |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Angola | 10.87 | 32.3 | 30.2 | 27.6 | 25.4 | 26.8 | 28.9 | 26.9 | 25.6 | 24.8 | 23.8 |
| Botswana | 1.78 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.2 | 3.0 | 2.6 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| Congo DR | 4.32 | 22.3 | 28.6 | 37.9 | 43.5 | 45.9 | 49.1 | 53.3 | 53.5 | 52.8 | 51.9 |
| Lesotho | 0.74 | 4.0 | 4.1 | 5.5 | 5.4 | 5.6 | 5.5 | 5.6 | 5.8 | 5.8 | 5.4 |
| Madagascar | 4.10 | 8.2 | 8.2 | 8.0 | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 9.4 | 9.3 | 8.9 | 8.5 |
| Malawi | 2.20 | 16.0 | 15.0 | 13.8 | 13.1 | 12.2 | 12.1 | 11.0 | 10.2 | 10.6 | 9.8 |
| Mauritius | 2.11 | 7.8 | 8.1 | 7.2 | 5.5 | 4.0 | 4.3 | 7.7 | 7.8 | 9.0 | 9.5 |
| Mozambique | 3.03 | 19.7 | 17.0 | 15.2 | 13.1 | 10.5 | 7.4 | 5.5 | 3.5 | 3.3 | 2.4 |
| Namibia | 1.77 | 7.3 | 7.3 | 5.5 | 5.4 | 5.7 | 5.5 | 5.8 | 5.4 | 4.2 | 4.4 |
| Seychelles | 0.15 | 4.4 | 4.2 | 3.5 | 4.3 | 4.4 | 2.8 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 8.0 | 8.3 |
| South Africa | 55.34 | 5.9 | 5.3 | 4.6 | 4.8 | 5.1 | 4.8 | 4.6 | 4.9 | 4.6 | 4.1 |
| Swaziland | 1.00 | 7.2 | 6.9 | 6.8 | 5.9 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 4.6 | 4.3 | 4.2 | 3.6 |
| Tanzania | 6.87 | 6.1 | 5.4 | 5.2 | 5.0 | 5.3 | 5.1 | 4.4 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 4.1 |
| Zambia | 3.38 | 1.9 | 2.2 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 2.9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | -1.1 | -1.0 | -1.0 |
| Zimbabwe | 2.35 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.7 | 2.1 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 2.6 |
| SADC | 100.00 | 10.8 | 10.4 | 9.8 | 9.8 | 10.2 | 10.4 | 10.2 | 10.0 | 9.7 | 9.3 |

Figure 4: COICOP Divisions annual inflation rates as at February 2018

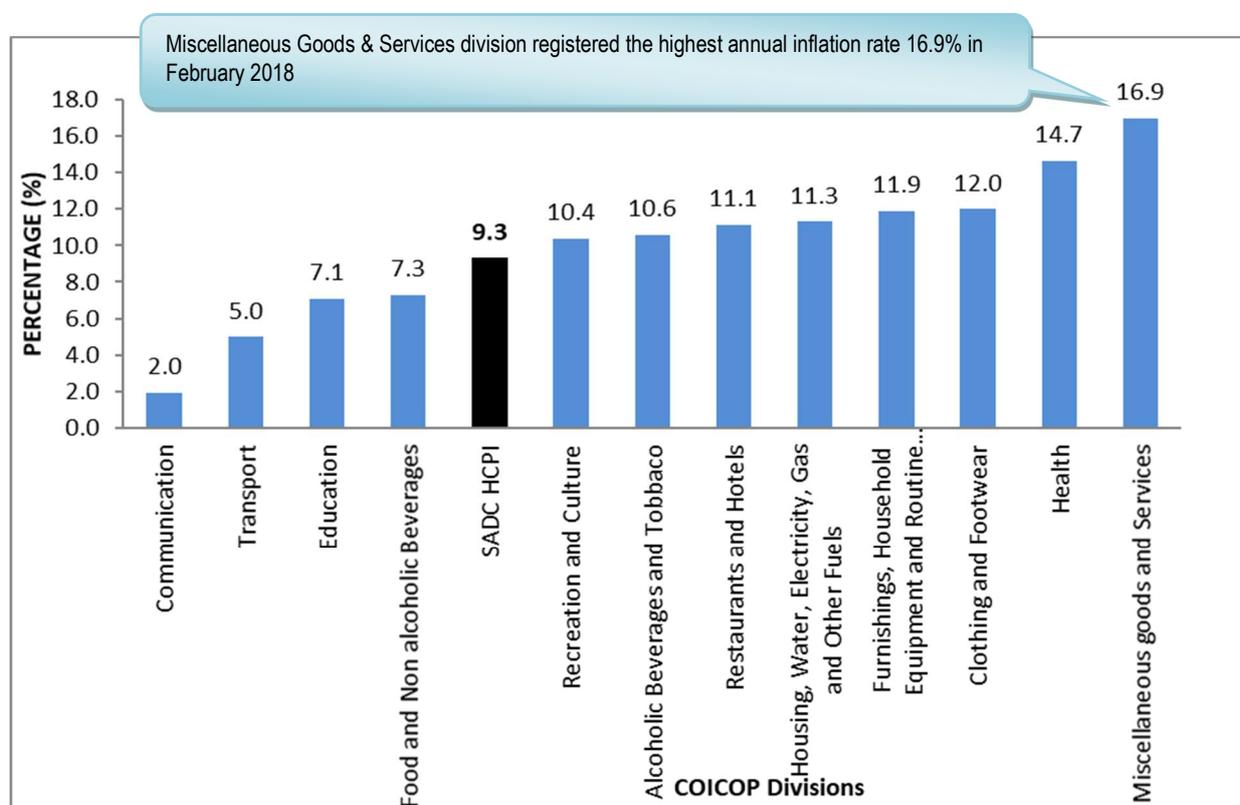


Table 3: Month on Month inflation rates (%) for the COICOP divisions, 2017-2018

| Divisions | Division weights | Apr17 May17 | May17 Jun17 | Jun17 Jul17 | Jul17 Aug17 | Aug17 Sept17 | Sept17 Oct17 | Oct17 Nov17 | Nov17 Dec17 | Dec17 Jan18 | Jan17 Feb18 |
|--|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| All items HCPI | 1000.00 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| Food & non-alcoholic beverages | 316.93 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 0.5 |
| Alcoholic beverages & tobacco | 53.09 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.4 |
| Clothing & footwear | 52.89 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 0.4 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.8 |
| Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels | 120.11 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 2.4 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 1.1 | 0.5 | 0.7 |
| Furnish, household equip & routine maintenance | 51.69 | 0.3 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 0.6 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| Health | 17.38 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 2.2 |
| Transport | 143.91 | 0.2 | -0.5 | -0.3 | 0.0 | 1.4 | 0.6 | 1.1 | 1.7 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| Communications | 29.63 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Recreation and culture | 28.36 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 2.2 | 2.1 | -0.2 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.7 |
| Education | 27.55 | -0.1 | 0.7 | -0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 2.8 | 0.5 |
| Restaurants and hotels | 44.75 | 0.3 | 1.2 | 0.3 | 2.1 | 0.5 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 0.5 |
| Miscellaneous goods and services | 113.70 | 0.2 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 0.9 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 0.3 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 2.9 |

Table 4: Annual inflation rates (%) for the COICOP divisions, 2017-2018

| Divisions | Division weights | May16 May17 | June16 June17 | July16 July17 | Aug16 Aug17 | Sept16 Sept17 | Oct16 Oct17 | Nov16 Nov17 | Dec16 Dec17 | Jan17 Jan18 | Feb17 Feb18 |
|--|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| All items HCPI | 1000.00 | 10.8 | 10.4 | 9.8 | 9.8 | 10.2 | 10.4 | 10.2 | 10.0 | 9.7 | 9.3 |
| Food & non-alcoholic beverages | 316.93 | 11.2 | 10.6 | 9.6 | 8.5 | 8.4 | 8.6 | 8.4 | 7.8 | 7.9 | 7.3 |
| Alcoholic beverages & tobacco | 53.09 | 11.7 | 11.5 | 11.1 | 11.6 | 12.0 | 12.2 | 12.2 | 11.4 | 10.6 | 10.6 |
| Clothing & footwear | 52.89 | 11.9 | 12.0 | 13.2 | 12.6 | 12.8 | 13.2 | 12.6 | 12.1 | 11.3 | 12.0 |
| Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels | 120.11 | 10.1 | 10.6 | 10.2 | 10.9 | 11.8 | 11.7 | 11.4 | 11.5 | 11.3 | 11.3 |
| Furnish, household equip & routine maintenance | 51.69 | 11.0 | 11.2 | 12.2 | 12.3 | 12.7 | 12.6 | 12.4 | 11.6 | 11.5 | 11.9 |
| Health | 17.38 | 14.0 | 14.5 | 14.7 | 14.6 | 15.3 | 15.4 | 15.6 | 14.7 | 14.6 | 14.7 |
| Transport | 143.91 | 6.2 | 3.9 | 3.0 | 4.1 | 5.7 | 5.3 | 5.0 | 6.5 | 5.5 | 5.0 |
| Communication | 29.63 | 10.5 | 8.7 | 7.6 | 8.0 | 8.2 | 6.2 | 2.5 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Recreation and culture | 28.36 | 12.2 | 11.3 | 13.0 | 14.0 | 12.6 | 13.0 | 12.1 | 10.1 | 9.9 | 10.4 |
| Education | 27.55 | 13.1 | 13.9 | 13.3 | 13.8 | 14.0 | 13.5 | 13.3 | 13.6 | 14.0 | 7.1 |
| Restaurants and hotels | 44.75 | 11.7 | 11.8 | 11.3 | 12.6 | 12.4 | 12.4 | 12.7 | 12.3 | 12.0 | 11.1 |
| Miscellaneous goods and services | 113.70 | 16.1 | 16.9 | 17.8 | 17.9 | 18.2 | 18.5 | 17.9 | 17.5 | 17.1 | 16.9 |

Table 5: Month on month inflation rates (%) for SADC Member States as measured by National HCPIs, 2016

| Member State | Country weights | Month on month inflation rates | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | Dec15 | Jan16 | Feb16 | Mar16 | Apr16 | May16 | Jun16 | Jul16 | Aug16 | Sep16 | Oct16 | Nov16 |
| | | Jan16 | Feb16 | Mar16 | Apr16 | May16 | Jun16 | Jul16 | Aug16 | Sep16 | Oct16 | Nov16 | Dec16 |
| Angola | 10.87 | 3.2 | 3.7 | 3.3 | 3.6 | 2.8 | 3.4 | 4.1 | 3.2 | 1.9 | 1.1 | 2.6 | 2.2 |
| Botswana | 1.78 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Congo DR | 4.32 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.7 | 3.4 |
| Lesotho | 0.74 | 0.9 | 1.7 | 2.3 | 1.7 | 0.9 | 0.2 | -1.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Madagascar | 4.10 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 1.5 |
| Malawi | 2.20 | 5.4 | 4.0 | -1.5 | -1.1 | -1.1 | 0.7 | -0.5 | 1.5 | 0.9 | 2.3 | 4.4 | 6.4 |
| Mauritius | 2.11 | -0.2 | 0.4 | 0.6 | -1.5 | -1.4 | 0.1 | -0.1 | 1.7 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 1.6 |
| Mozambique | 3.03 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 1.7 | 2.1 | -0.1 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.8 | 2.7 | 2.8 | 2.7 | 3.1 |
| Namibia | 1.77 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.2 | -0.2 |
| Seychelles | 0.15 | 3.4 | 0.0 | -0.3 | 0.4 | -0.2 | 0.3 | 0.9 | -0.6 | -0.2 | 1.4 | 0.1 | -0.3 |
| South Africa | 55.34 | 0.9 | 1.6 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 1.0 | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.2 |
| Swaziland | 1.00 | 0.6 | 2.5 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 1.0 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.3 |
| Tanzania | 6.87 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | -0.2 | -0.2 | 0.1 | 1.1 | 0.7 |
| Zambia | 3.38 | 3.1 | 1.2 | 2.1 | -0.4 | 0.3 | 0.1 | -0.1 | -1.0 | 0.1 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 1.5 |
| Zimbabwe | 2.35 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.2 | -0.2 | -0.2 | 0.2 | -0.2 | -0.1 | -0.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| SADC | 100.0 | 1.4 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.2 |

Table 6: Annual inflation rates (%) and annual averages (%) for SADC Member States as measured by National HCPIs, 2016

| Member State | Country | Annual inflation rates | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | Jan15 | Feb15 | Mar15 | Apr15 | May15 | Jun15 | Jul15 | Aug15 | Sep15 | Oct15 | Nov15 | Dec15 | Avg 16 |
| | | Jan16 | Feb16 | Mar16 | Apr16 | May16 | Jun16 | Jul16 | Aug16 | Sep16 | Oct16 | Nov16 | Dec16 | |
| Angola* | 10.87 | 17.3 | 20.6 | 23.7 | 27.1 | 29.1 | 31.9 | 36.0 | 38.7 | 38.4 | 39.1 | 40.8 | 41.5 | 32.3 |
| Botswana | 1.78 | 2.8 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 3.3 | 3.1 |
| Congo DR | 4.32 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 2.1 | 2.6 | 3.5 | 4.9 | 6.5 | 10.0 | 3.0 |
| Lesotho | 0.74 | 9.2 | 10.7 | 12.8 | 13.5 | 13.4 | 12.5 | 10.5 | 9.6 | 8.6 | 8.1 | 7.8 | 7.4 | 10.3 |
| Madagascar | 4.10 | 6.3 | 5.7 | 4.6 | 4.8 | 4.9 | 5.1 | 5.4 | 5.4 | 5.4 | 5.5 | 5.7 | 6.5 | 5.4 |
| Malawi | 2.20 | 25.6 | 25.5 | 24.3 | 22.8 | 24.6 | 24.9 | 25.9 | 25.1 | 23.7 | 22.8 | 22.6 | 23.3 | 24.2 |
| Mauritius | 2.11 | 2.7 | 1.0 | 1.6 | -0.2 | 1.6 | 2.1 | 2.3 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 3.9 | 3.7 | 2.3 |
| Mozambique | 3.03 | 10.9 | 11.7 | 13.5 | 16.8 | 17.7 | 19.4 | 20.3 | 22.1 | 25.1 | 26.3 | 27.6 | 26.0 | 19.8 |
| Namibia | 1.77 | 4.8 | 5.9 | 6.3 | 7.3 | 7.8 | 7.5 | 7.1 | 7.9 | 8.3 | 8.3 | 8.3 | 8.2 | 7.3 |
| Seychelles | 0.15 | 7.3 | 6.7 | 3.4 | 3.1 | 1.9 | 3.6 | 4.0 | 2.6 | 2.4 | 5.2 | 5.5 | 5.0 | 4.2 |
| South Africa | 55.34 | 6.6 | 7.8 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 7.1 | 7.0 | 6.8 | 7.1 | 7.5 | 7.8 | 7.9 | 7.2 |
| Swaziland | 1.00 | 5.5 | 7.9 | 7.9 | 8.2 | 8.2 | 7.7 | 7.4 | 8.2 | 8.4 | 8.4 | 8.9 | 9.0 | 8.0 |
| Tanzania | 6.87 | 7.3 | 6.8 | 6.7 | 6.3 | 6.0 | 6.1 | 5.7 | 5.2 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 4.9 | 5.0 | 5.8 |
| Zambia | 3.38 | 27.0 | 28.3 | 30.3 | 29.3 | 29.0 | 28.5 | 28.0 | 25.5 | 24.4 | 16.5 | 10.3 | 9.6 | 23.4 |
| Zimbabwe | 2.35 | -2.4 | -2.4 | -2.6 | -1.7 | -1.8 | -1.4 | -1.6 | -1.5 | -1.4 | -1.0 | -1.2 | -0.9 | -1.7 |
| SADC | 100.0 | 8.9 | 9.9 | 9.9 | 10.3 | 10.6 | 11.1 | 11.5 | 11.7 | 11.9 | 12.0 | 12.4 | 12.7 | 11.1 |

Table 7: Month on month inflation rates (%) for the COICOP divisions, 2016

| Divisions | Division Weights | Month on month inflation rates | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|--------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | Dec15 | Jan16 | Feb16 | Mar16 | Apr16 | May16 | Jun16 | Jul16 | Aug16 | Sep16 | Oct16 | Nov16 |
| | | Jan16 | Feb16 | Mar16 | Apr16 | May16 | Jun16 | Jul16 | Aug16 | Sep16 | Oct16 | Nov16 | Dec16 |
| All items HCPI | 1,000.00 | 1.4 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.2 |
| Food & non-alcoholic beverages | 316.62 | 2.1 | 2.7 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1.3 | 1.6 |
| Alcoholic beverages & tobacco | 50.39 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 1.1 |
| Clothing & footwear | 55.54 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 1.3 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 1.2 | 1.1 |
| Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels | 126.02 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 2.8 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| Furnish, household equipment & maint. of house | 55.91 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 1.5 |
| Health | 18.76 | 0.5 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 0.4 | 1.2 | 0.4 | 1.3 |
| Transport | 143.43 | 1.4 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 0.4 | 1.7 | 0.5 | -1.0 | -0.1 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 0.2 |
| Communication | 29.09 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 2.0 | 3.9 | 0.2 |
| Recreation and culture | 27.05 | 1.2 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 1.1 | 0.6 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2.5 |
| Education | 29.11 | 2.4 | 0.7 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | -0.3 |
| Restaurants and hotels | 41.10 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 0.9 | 1.3 |
| Miscellaneous goods & services | 106.98 | 1.6 | 3.7 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 1.0 |

Table 8: Annual inflation rates (%) and annual averages (%) for the COICOP divisions, 2016

| Divisions | Division Weights | Annual inflation | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | Jan16 | Feb16 | Mar16 | Apr16 | May16 | Jun16 | Jul16 | Aug16 | Sep16 | Oct16 | Nov16 | Dec16 | Avg16 |
| | | Jan16 | Feb16 | Mar16 | Apr16 | May16 | Jun16 | Jul16 | Aug16 | Sep16 | Oct16 | Nov16 | Dec16 | |
| All items HCPI | 1000.0 | 8.9 | 9.9 | 9.9 | 10.3 | 10.6 | 11.1 | 11.5 | 11.7 | 11.9 | 12.0 | 12.4 | 12.7 | 11.1 |
| Food & non-alcoholic beverages | 316.62 | 10.1 | 11.9 | 13.0 | 14.4 | 14.6 | 15.1 | 16.4 | 16.8 | 16.8 | 16.4 | 16.2 | 16.7 | 14.9 |
| Alcoholic beverages & tobacco | 50.39 | 8.0 | 8.9 | 9.3 | 10.1 | 10.0 | 10.6 | 11.5 | 12.1 | 12.2 | 12.9 | 13.0 | 14.2 | 11.1 |
| Clothing & footwear | 55.54 | 8.0 | 7.4 | 7.7 | 8.3 | 8.8 | 9.4 | 9.3 | 9.9 | 10.3 | 10.3 | 10.4 | 10.4 | 9.2 |
| Housing, water, fuels etc. | 126.02 | 8.7 | 9.1 | 9.5 | 10.3 | 11.0 | 10.9 | 10.1 | 10.2 | 9.9 | 10.2 | 11.0 | 10.9 | 10.2 |
| Furnish, h/hold equipment | 55.91 | 7.7 | 7.7 | 8.2 | 9.0 | 8.8 | 8.9 | 9.3 | 9.3 | 8.9 | 9.5 | 10.0 | 10.7 | 9.0 |
| Health | 18.76 | 7.9 | 8.9 | 11.8 | 11.8 | 11.7 | 12.7 | 13.6 | 14.6 | 14.4 | 15.2 | 15.0 | 15.2 | 12.8 |
| Transport | 143.43 | 6.6 | 9.1 | 7.1 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 6.2 | 5.8 | 5.0 | 5.6 | 6.1 | 7.7 | 7.8 | 6.5 |
| Communications | 29.09 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 2.7 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.3 | 6.2 | 10.6 | 10.7 | 3.8 |
| Recreation and culture | 27.05 | 6.7 | 7.1 | 7.0 | 6.9 | 7.3 | 7.9 | 8.2 | 8.8 | 9.3 | 9.5 | 9.6 | 12.2 | 8.4 |
| Education | 29.11 | 9.3 | 10.0 | 7.5 | 7.4 | 7.4 | 7.0 | 6.8 | 6.7 | 6.8 | 7.2 | 7.4 | 7.1 | 7.5 |
| Restaurants and hotels | 41.10 | 8.1 | 8.6 | 8.7 | 9.1 | 9.7 | 10.6 | 11.0 | 11.4 | 11.6 | 12.1 | 12.0 | 12.1 | 10.4 |
| Miscellaneous goods & services | 106.98 | 9.7 | 10.7 | 11.4 | 12.2 | 12.8 | 13.7 | 14.5 | 15.2 | 15.7 | 16.6 | 16.7 | 16.8 | 13.9 |

Table 9: SADC HCPI Time series data - January 2016 to date (December 2010=100)

| Month | SADC HCPI | | | Month on month inflation rate | | | Year on year inflation rate | | |
|---------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------------------------------|------|------|-----------------------------|------|------|
| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
| January | 153.5 | 161.2 | 176.9 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 8.9 | 12.4 | 9.7 |
| February | 155.9 | 163.3 | 178.5 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 9.9 | 11.9 | 9.3 |
| March | 157.3 | 164.7 | | 1.0 | 0.9 | | 9.9 | 11.8 | |
| April | 159.1 | 165.6 | | 1.2 | 0.5 | | 10.3 | 11.1 | |
| May | 159.9 | 166.1 | | 0.5 | 0.3 | | 10.6 | 10.8 | |
| June | 151.2 | 166.9 | | 0.9 | 0.5 | | 11.1 | 10.4 | |
| July | 153.0 | 168.0 | | 1.2 | 0.7 | | 11.5 | 9.8 | |
| August | 153.7 | 168.8 | | 0.5 | 0.5 | | 11.7 | 9.8 | |
| September | 154.5 | 170.4 | | 0.5 | 0.9 | | 11.9 | 10.2 | |
| October | 155.8 | 172.0 | | 0.8 | 1.0 | | 12.0 | 10.4 | |
| November | 157.6 | 173.6 | | 1.1 | 0.9 | | 12.4 | 10.2 | |
| December | 159.4 | 175.4 | | 1.2 | 1.0 | | 12.7 | 10.0 | |
| Annual average HCPI | 151.7 | 168.0 | | | | | 11.1 | 10.7 | |

Measures of inflation

The annual rate measures the price change between the current month and the corresponding month of the previous year. The rate is responsive to recent changes in price levels but it can also be

influenced by one-off effects in either month.

The 12 month average compares the average HCPI in the latest 12 months to the average of the previous 12 months. It overcomes

the volatility of the annual measure. The monthly rate measures the price change between the two latest months. Although up to date, it can be affected by seasonal and other short-term effects

The Harmonised Consumer Price Index

The Harmonised Consumer Price Index (HCPI) is defined as the Consumer Price Index (CPI) developed from comparable methodologies. That means CPIs which have been developed from the concepts, definitions and methods that are comparable. CPIs are economic indicators that measure changes overtime of prices of consumer goods and services purchased by households. HCPI is meant to provide an official measure of inflation in the region, and it makes international comparisons easier since the national HCPIs are produced using harmonised methodologies and as much as practicable using the same statistical classifications, standards and frameworks.

Both the HCPIs and national CPIs measure inflation faced by consumers, and use the same data sources in most part. However, the

two measure inflation with different aims and therefore, sometimes use different concepts and methods. HCPI's main use is for monetary policy, and is used as one of the convergence criteria to assess compliance of Member States to economic unions and to monitor progress towards integration. Member states of economic unions are given target inflation levels to achieve, in specified period to be considered for some preferential treatments within the integration. And this requires a harmonised conceptual framework and comparable results. The national CPIs in addition to being the measure of inflation have many other purposes such as cost of living which require different methodologies.

The Member States HCPIs are produced by respective Member States using agreed harmonised methodologies. The SADC HCPI is

compiled by the SADC Secretariat by aggregating the National HCPIs of the Member States. These are calculated as weighted averages of the national HCPIs, using as weights each country's total household real consumption expenditure converted to a common currency using the purchasing power parities derived from the results of the 2005 (**for HCPIs prior to January 2013**), 2009 (**for HCPIs January 2013 to December 2015**) and 2011 (**for HCPIs since January 2015**) International Comparison Program as supplied by the African Development Bank and the World Bank.

More information on SADC HCPI methodology can be availed on demand.

Acknowledgement

The SADC Secretariat duly acknowledges with thanks the continuous support and cooperation of the respective

National Statistics Offices of SADC Member States in providing monthly national HCPIs which form the basis for the aggregate SADC

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Production team

This news release was produced under the auspices of the SADC Statistics Programme in the Directorate of Policy Planning Resource Mobilisation of the SADC Secretariat, Gaborone, Botswana.

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Further information pertaining to methodology and related aspects of the HCPI process in SADC can be obtained by contacting the Statistics Unit at SADC Secretariat by directing inquiries to:

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SADC HCPI website link:

<http://www.sadc.int/news-events/newsletters/harmonised-consumer-price-index-newsletter/>

Proposed Future release dates

Scheduled dates for the coming months are:

| SADC HCPI for: | Publication date by SADC Secretariat |
|-----------------------|---|
| March 2018 | 05 th May 2018 |
| April 2018 | 05 th June 2018 |
| May 2018 | 05 th July 2018 |