



مركز الإحصاء - أبوظبي  
STATISTICS CENTRE - ABU DHABI

# Consumer Price Index

## April, 2012

(Base year 2007)

May 7, 2012

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## Key Points

- The average rise in consumer prices for the first four months of 2012 was 1.1 per cent, compared with the same period of 2011.
- From April 2011 to April 2012, average consumer prices rose by 1.8 per cent.
- From March 2012 to April 2012, average consumer prices increased by 0.2 per cent.

**Table 1: Average CPI and relative change**

Year	Mar	Apr	Jan – Apr
	CPI		
2011	120.7	120.3	120.8
2012	122.2	122.5	122.2
	— % —		
Relative change	1.3	1.8	1.1

**Source:** Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

Relative change is based on the unrounded CPI

- An overall rise in consumer prices during the first four months of 2012 compared with the same period in 2011 has led to an increase of 1.3 per cent in consumer prices for households of the bottom and for the middle welfare quintile over the same period of comparison. As for the other welfare levels, consumer prices grew by 0.9 per cent for households of the top quintile.
- During the first four months of 2012 compared with the same period in 2011, consumer prices for national and for share households increased by 1.3 per cent, and by 0.8 per cent for non-national households.

## 1. Consumer prices for the first four months of 2012

**Table 2: Weights, relative price index changes and contributions of expenditure groups to the overall percentage points change in CPI, Jan-Apr 2012 compared with Jan-Apr 2011**

Main Expenditure Groups	Weight	Relative change in group CPI's	Contribution to percentage point change in CPI
		— % —	
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	16.1	4.8	73.9
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	0.3	8.4	1.9
Clothing and footwear	9.8	-1.7	-12.3
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	37.9	-0.9	-30.7
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	4.8	2.1	9.3
Health	0.8	0.0	0.0
Transport	9.7	0.8	7.4
Communication	7.7	0.0	-0.2
Recreation and culture	2.4	-0.4	-0.7
Education	2.6	4.8	14.4
Restaurants and hotels	3.4	12.2	38.7
Miscellaneous goods and services	4.6	-0.4	-1.7
Total	100	-	100

**Source:** Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

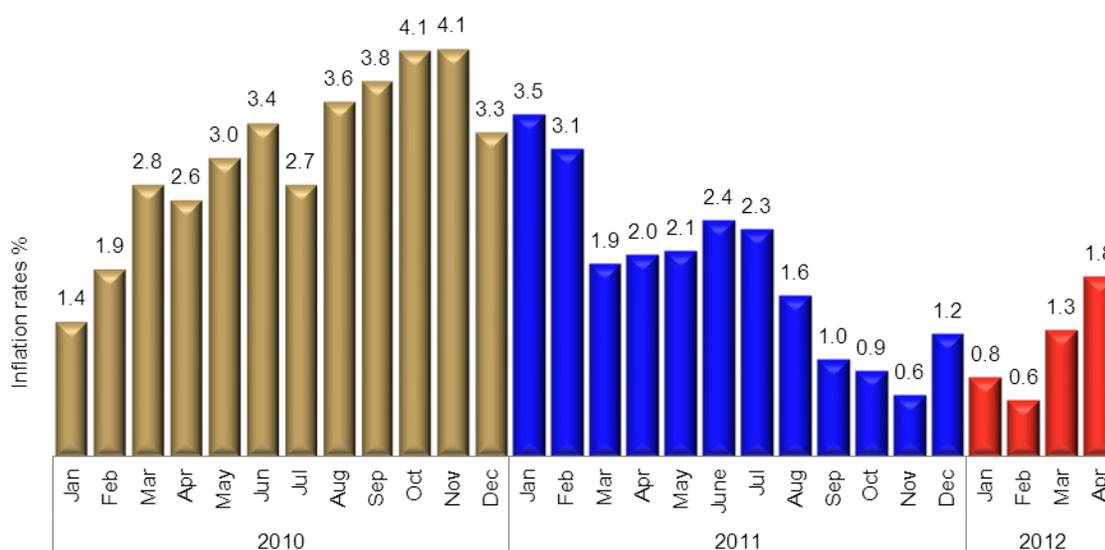
Relative change is based on the unrounded CPI.

- The average rise in consumer prices for the first four months of 2012 was 1.1 per cent, compared with the same period of 2011.
- The "Food and non-alcoholic beverages" group, accounted for 73.9 per cent of the percentage point rise in the index, due to increases in the prices of most of the subgroups included in this group. The highest price increases were in the "Meat" subgroups which rose by 11.5 per cent, followed by "Fish and seafood" 13.8 per cent, "Coffee, tea and cocoa" 9.9 per cent, "Oils and fats" 6.6 per cent, and "Bread and cereals" 3.2 per cent.
- The next highest group contributor to the overall year-to-date increase in the CPI over the first four months of 2012 was "Restaurants and hotels" which accounted for 40 per cent of the increase in the CPI. While prices for this group increased by 12.2 per cent.
- The main group that slowed down the rise in consumer prices during the first four months of 2012 compared with the same period of 2011 was "Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels" which contributed a negative 30.7 per cent of the overall change in the CPI index. The average prices of this group decreased by 0.9 per cent.

## 2. Consumer prices for April 2012

- Over the year, that is, for April 2012 compared with April 2011, average consumer prices increased by 1.8 per cent. The most significant individual increase came from higher prices for “Restaurants and hotels” which rose by 18.9 per cent, followed by “Alcoholic beverages and tobacco” 9.5 per cent and “Food and non-alcoholic beverages” 6.2 per cent. Over the same period, prices of the “Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels” group decreased by 1.3 per cent.
- Over the month, that is, for April 2012 compared with March 2012, average consumer prices increased by 0.2 per cent. The most significant individual increase came from prices for “Restaurants and hotels” which increased by 4.9 per cent.

**Figure 1: Annual Inflation Rates from January 2010 to April 2012**



**Source:** Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

### **3. Consumer prices by household welfare level for April 2012**

- Consumer prices for households of the bottom and middle welfare quintile increased by 1.3 per cent during the first four months of 2012 compared with the same period in 2011. The corresponding rise for other welfare levels was 0.9 per cent for households of the top quintile and 1.5 per cent for the bottom middle welfare quintile.
- Consumer prices for households in the bottom welfare quintile increased by 2.2 per cent in April 2012 compared with April 2011. Prices for households in the top welfare level increased by 1.7 per cent and in the middle welfare level by 2.0 per cent.
- Consumer prices increased in April 2012 compared with March 2012 for all welfare levels. Prices in the bottom welfare level increased by 0.5 per cent. Prices for households in the top welfare level increased by 0.3 per cent and in the middle welfare level by 0.1 per cent.

#### **4. Consumer prices by household type for April 2012**

- During the first four months of 2012, consumer prices for national and for share households increased by 1.3 per cent, and by 0.8 per cent for non-national households.
- Consumer prices for national households increased by 2.0 per cent, in April 2012 compared with April 2011, while consumer prices for non national households and share households increased by 1.5 per cent and 2.6 per cent respectively.
- Compared with March 2012, consumer prices increased for national households by 0.3 per cent, for non-national households and 0.3 per cent, and for share households by 0.9 per cent

#### **Next release**

Consumer price index, May 2012, will be released on 10 June 2012 . For more information on prices and other official statistics, please visit the SCAD website at <http://www.scad.ae>

## **Consumer Price Index (CPI) Calculation Methodology**

The CPI is a mathematical average that measures the rate of change in the prices of a basket of goods and services purchased by representative households between four time periods. The period against which prices are compared is known as the base period and the period under review is known as the comparison period.

### **1- Sources of Goods and Services**

The sources used for collection of price data were determined through field visits conducted by a team from SCAD's Price Indices Section. These sources are updated on a regular basis e.g. when any source closes down or relocates premises. Price data are currently collected from 117 sources.

### **2- Collection of Price Data**

The CPI basket is collected every month, except for the group of vegetables, fruit, meat, fish, and chicken for which price data are collected every week due to price fluctuations in these items. Data on home rentals are collected on a quarterly basis, and school tuition fees semi-annually. The index is calculated using 2007 as the base year for the Abu Dhabi region, with a basket consisting of 334 goods and services and a consumer basket consisting of 670 goods and services.

### **3 - Weights**

The weights (relative importance) of goods and services are calculated using the results of the 2007-08 Household Income and Expenditure Survey. Goods or services with a weight of 0.002 per cent or more were included in the CPI basket of goods and services. Goods with weights below this value were distributed proportionally among the other goods in the same group.

#### **4- Compilation of the CPI**

The CPI is calculated using the Laspeyres method which uses fixed base-year weights:

$$CPI_L = \sum \frac{P_{1i}}{P_{0i}} \times W_{0i}$$

The average prices of items in the basket are calculated using the geometric mean of elementary aggregates. Price ratios are calculated by dividing the comparison price by the base price. The price ratios are then multiplied by their appropriate base weights, and are then summed to form the average index.

The index for house rentals is calculated separately using a moving base. This figure is calculated on a quarterly basis.

In addition to the general CPI for all Abu Dhabi Emirate, the CPI is also constructed for five welfare levels classified according to annual household income quintiles. In addition, the CPI by household type is constructed for the classifications of household type: national, non-national and share households. A share household means four or more unrelated persons living in one housing unit and sharing their living arrangements.