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PRICES SECTION

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) – PRESS RELEASE

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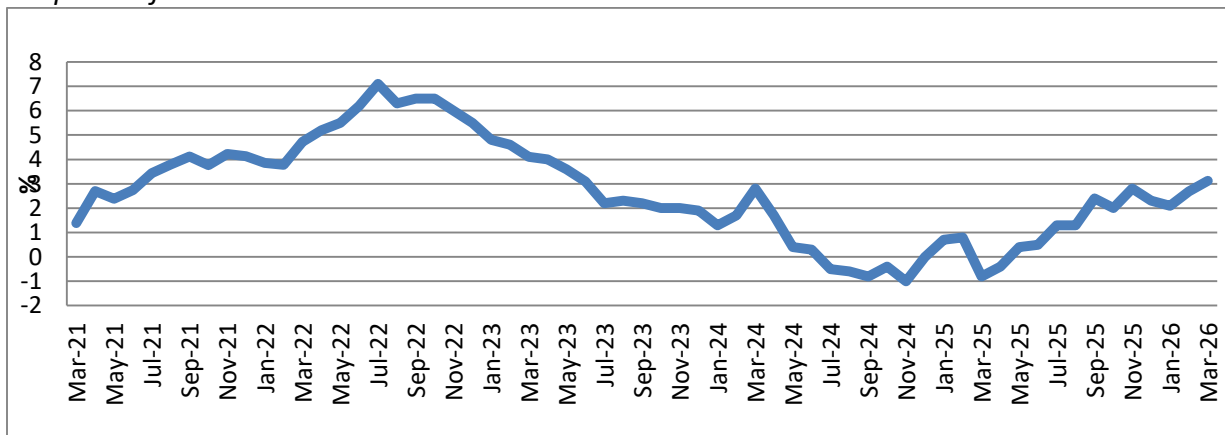
The Bahamas National Statistical Institute (BNSI) is pleased to announce the release of its Consumer Price Index (CPI) Report for March 2026. The inflation rate is measured as the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) between two periods and reflects the average change in prices of goods and services purchased by households over time.

The monthly inflation rate in The Bahamas increased by 0.35 percent in March 2026 compared to February 2026, reflecting changes in the average prices of goods and services purchased by consumers during the period. This follows an increase of 0.95 percent recorded between January and February 2026.

On a month-to-month basis (March 2026 compared to February 2026), the largest increases were recorded in Clothing and Footwear (2.7 percent), Transport (1.8 percent), and Health (0.5 percent) categories. In contrast, the largest decrease was observed in Furnishings, Household Equipment, and Routine Household Maintenance (2.1 percent).

On a year-over-year basis (March 2026 compared to March 2025), as illustrated in Graph 1 below, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for March 2026 increased by 3.1 percent compared to the same period in 2025. The primary categories contributing to the year-over-year increase were Restaurant and Hotels, 17.6 percent; Furnishings, Household Equipment, and Routine Household Maintenance, 8.5 percent; and the Housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels category, which also rose by 4.4 percent. In contrast, the category Alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and narcotics declined by 6.7 percent over the same period.

Graph 1: Inflation rate



The petroleum and diesel index showed a month-over-month increase in March 2026, with petroleum prices rising by 5.4 percent and diesel prices increasing by 6.4 percent relative to February 2026.

On an annual basis, both petroleum and diesel prices increased with petroleum seeing a 0.8 percent increase while diesel increased 2.8 percent over the same period.

Table 1: Monthly Petroleum and Diesel Prices 2025-2026
Average Price of Petroleum & Diesel

Month	Gas(\$)	% change 1 year ago	Diesel (\$)	% change 1 year ago
Feb-25	5.5	3.38	4.82	-12.99
Mar-25	5.47	-1.44	5.02	-4.2
Apr-25	5.51	-4.84	4.98	-5.5
May-25	5.44	-7.8	4.82	-7.31
Jun-25	5.50	-4.18	4.86	-6.54
Jul-25	5.56	-1.1	4.97	-1.4
Aug-25	5.50	-1.6	5.06	-0.4
Sep-25	5.54	1.1	5.07	1.0
Oct-25	5.5	0.0	4.99	-0.4
Nov-25	5.33	-3.3	4.95	-2.0
Dec-25	5.36	0.2	4.94	1.4
Jan-26	5.14	-5.2	4.90	1.7
Feb-26	5.23	-4.9	4.85	0.7
Mar-26	5.51	0.8	5.16	2.8

Source: Bahamas National Statistical Institute: Prices Section (CPI)

Table 2: 2026 Consumer Price Index Major Indices
November 2014=100
Major Groups CPI Index 2026

Items	Weights	2025 Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	2026 Mar
CPI All Items	100.0	124.38	124.52	124.55	124.43	125.61	126.04
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	102.39	134.04	133.86	133.76	134.96	135.07	137.22
ALCOHOL BEVERAGES, TOBACCO AND NARCOTICS	5.94	133.42	133.82	133.82	134.6	133.67	131.33
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	44.99	111.2	111.64	111.64	111.64	111.62	114.63
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS, AND OTHER FUELS	321.69	116.84	116.84	116.84	116.89	120.02	119.23
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE	45.7	147.49	147.68	147.65	147.11	146.72	143.71
HEALTH	43.99	170.35	168.31	168.31	167.12	167.94	167.16
TRANSPORT	124.97	118.54	120.49	120.82	120.83	121.54	123.70
COMMUNICATION	40.9	109.4	109.15	109.15	108.44	108.44	108.47
RECREATION AND CULTURE	24.59	129.82	130.32	130.32	127.06	127.06	127.20
EDUCATION	42.36	106.84	106.84	107.2	107.15	107.15	107.36
RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	56.84	172.18	172.18	172.18	172.25	172.24	173.04
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	145.64	119.17	118.74	118.64	117.99	118.05	119.23

Source: Bahamas National Statistical Institute: Prices Section (CPI)

All Items Indices
Monthly and Annual Percentage Changes
(November 2014 = 100)
All Bahamas

Year	Month	CPI	Percentage Change	
		Index	1 month Ago	1 Year Ago
2024	January	120.98	-0.6	1.3
	February	121.34	0.3	1.7
	March	123.23	1.6	2.8
	April	122.6	-0.5	1.7
	May	121.56	-0.8	0.4
	June	121.45	-0.1	0.3
	July	121.27	-0.1	-0.5
	August	121.41	0.1	-0.6
	September	121.43	0.0	-0.8
	October	121.99	0.5	-0.4
	November	121.13	-0.7	-1
	December	121.75	0.5	0
2025	January	121.87	0.1	0.7
	February	122.32	0.4	0.8
	March	122.23	-0.1	-0.8
	April	122.11	-0.1	-0.4
	May	122.04	-0.1	0.4
	June	122.1	0.1	0.5
	July	122.8	0.6	1.3
	August	123.02	0.18	1.3
	September	124.39	1.1	2.4
	October	124.38	0.0	2
	November	124.52	0.11	2.8
	December	124.55	0.02	2.3
2026	January	124.43	-0.10	2.1
	February	125.61	0.95	2.7
	March	126.04	0.3	3.1

Source: Bahamas National Statistical Institute: Prices Section (CPI)