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BOTSWANA'S ANNUAL INFLATION EASES marginally TO 9.3 PERCENT IN AUGUST 2026

Gaborone, 15 September 2026 — Botswana's annual inflation rate eased marginally to **9.3 percent in August 2026**, down from **9.4 percent in July 2026**, according to the latest Consumer Price Index (CPI) released by Statistics Botswana.

The **0.1 percentage-point decline** indicates a modest easing in annual price pressures during the month. However, the inflation rate remains elevated, with **Transport** continuing to be the largest contributor to annual inflation, accounting for **5.1 percentage points**. This was followed by **Miscellaneous Goods & Services**, with a contribution of **1.2 percentage points**, and **Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages**, which contributed **0.9 percentage point**.

Consumer prices increase by 0.4 percent

On a month-to-month basis, Botswana's Consumer Price Index increased by **0.4 percent**, rising from **148.8 in July to 149.5 in August 2026**. The CPI also increased across all three geographical areas, with the Urban Villages index rising by 0.5 percent, while both Cities & Towns and Rural Villages recorded increases of 0.4 percent.

Inflationary movements differed across geographical areas. **Urban Villages recorded an annual inflation rate of 9.2 percent**, down from 9.4 percent in July. **Rural Villages recorded the highest annual inflation rate at 10.2 percent**, up from 10.1 percent, while **Cities & Towns remained unchanged at 9.0 percent**.

Electricity tariffs push housing-related prices higher

The **Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels** group recorded the largest month-on-month increase among the CPI groups, rising by **1.4 percent** between July and August.

The increase was primarily driven by a **6.8 percent rise in the Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels section**, following the implementation of revised domestic electricity tariffs effective **1 August 2026**.

Food prices continue to rise

The **Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages** group increased by **0.5 percent** between July and August 2026, with increases recorded in several constituent sections.

The most notable increases were recorded in **Milk, Cheese & Milk Products (4.7 percent)**, **Fruits (3.6 percent)**, **Food Not Elsewhere Classified (2.0 percent)**, and **Coffee, Tea & Cocoa (1.0 percent)**.

The **Furnishing, Household Equipment & Routine Maintenance** group also increased by **0.5 percent**, driven by increases in Household Textiles, Goods & Services for Household Maintenance, and Furniture & Furnishing.

Tradeables inflation declines

Inflation for **All-Tradeables** declined by **0.5 percentage point**, from **11.9 percent in July to 11.4 percent in August 2026**.

Domestic Tradeables inflation declined by **0.9 percentage point**, from 8.1 percent to 7.2 percent, while Imported Tradeables inflation fell by **0.3 percentage point**, from 13.3 percent to 13.0 percent.

In contrast, **Non-Tradeables inflation increased by 0.6 percentage point**, from 5.6 percent in July to 6.2 percent in August.

Core inflation also eases

The **Trimmed Mean Core Inflation** rate declined slightly from **8.4 percent in July to 8.3 percent in August 2026**.

Core inflation excluding administered prices recorded a more pronounced decline, falling from **6.3 percent in July to 5.9 percent in August**, a decrease of 0.4 percentage point.

Statistics Botswana will continue to compile and disseminate the Consumer Price Index on a monthly basis to provide timely information on price movements and inflationary developments in Botswana.

For more information and enquiries, contact:

Corporate Communications

Statistics Botswana

Tel: +267 367 1300 / 367 1349

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