

Qatar Consumer Price Index (CPI) – October 2009

Qatar's Consumer Price Index (CPI) levelled off in October when compared to September decreasing by only 0.1 percent. The CPI now stands at 122.3 (2006=100), down 4.8 percent from the beginning of 2009. The index is a measure of the general price level of goods and services consumed by the average household in Qatar. The index has been trending downwards since the beginning of 2009 following a period of high inflation in 2008.

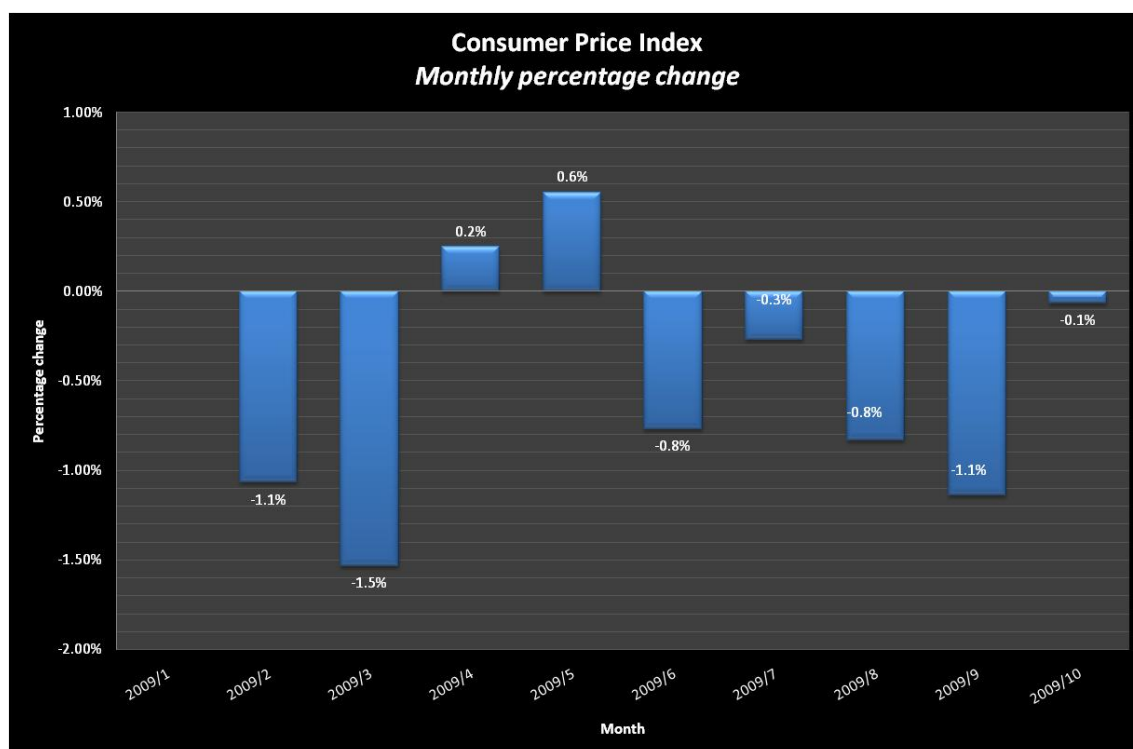


Figure 1: Total Monthly CPI

Some highlights for October 2009 were:

- Overall food prices decreased 2.3 percent when compared to September. Contributing to this decrease was a 6.4 percent drop in prices for fish and seafood and an 8.7 percent decline in fruit and vegetables prices.
- Rental prices decreased by an overall 3.3 percent when compared to September and were now 13.8 percent lower than prices in January 2009.
- Clothing prices increased 2.1 percent in October. Footwear prices decreased by 1.8 percent after recording increases in the August and September.
- Air travel prices increased by 7.0 percent after recording decreases in the previous three months (July, August and September) but were still 1.4 percent lower than in January 2009.

Overall CPI – monthly price changes

CPI Section	% of CPI basket / الأوزان %	Aug/ أغسطس 2009	Sep/ سبتمبر 2009	Oct/ أكتوبر 2009	أقسام الرقم القياسي
Household Consumption (CPI)	100%	-0.8%	-1.1%	-0.1%	الاستهلاك العائلي
Food, Beverages & Tobacco	13.2%	1.6%	-0.6%	-2.2%	الغذاء والمشروبات والتبغ
Clothing & Footwear	5.8%	-0.2%	0.6%	0.7%	الملابس والأحذية
Housing, utilities and related services	32.2%	-1.6%	-3.0%	-2.9%	الإيجار والوقود والطاقة
Furniture, Textiles & Home Appliances	8.2%	-0.3%	0.0%	4.2%	الأثاث والمنسوجات والأجهزة المنزلية
Medical Care & Health Services	2.0%	-0.8%	0.4%	1.8%	العناية الطبية والخدمات الصحية
Transport & Communication	20.5%	-0.9%	-0.2%	0.7%	النقل والمواصلات
Entertainment, Recreation and Culture	10.9%	-3.1%	-0.5%	5.2%	التسلية والترفيه والثقافة
Miscellaneous Goods & services	7.2%	0.2%	0.0%	1.1%	سلع وخدمات متفرقة.

Food Prices

Overall food prices recorded a decrease in October of 2.3 percent when compared to the previous month. Despite the price rises recorded earlier in 2009 for July and August, food prices were an overall 3.5 percent lower than at the beginning of the year.

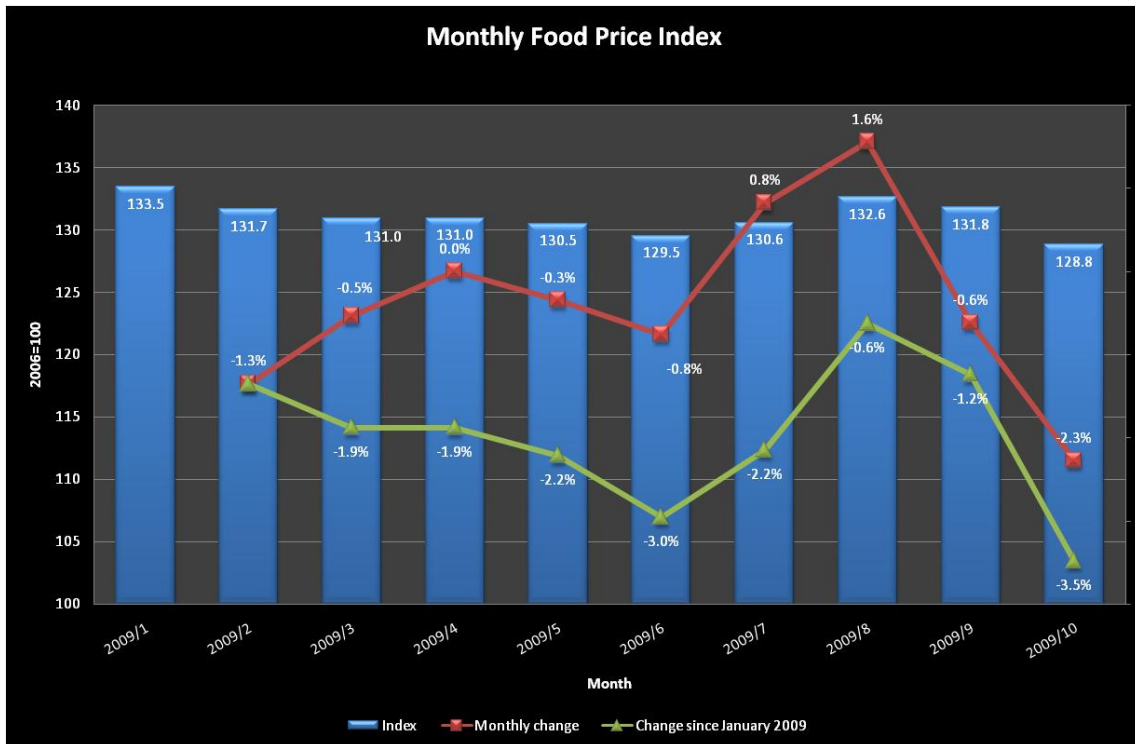


Figure 2: Monthly food price index (FPI)

Food price rises – October 2009

Food Type	% of food basket	Sep-09	Oct-09	Oct/Jan	
Mutton	12.4%	0.0%	3.0%	4.7%	لحم الضأن والغنم
Chicken	6.8%	-2.2%	1.1%	-5.6%	الدجاج
Preserved fruits, fruit juices & children's food	3.8%	-1.3%	0.9%	-2.9%	الفواكه المعلبة وعصير الفواكه وطعام الأطفال
Unsubsidized Rice	3.6%	-3.1%	1.1%	-14.3%	الأرز غير المدعوم
Beef	3.0%	-5.8%	2.7%	-3.1%	لحم البقر
Dried Fruits & Nuts	2.8%	-4.4%	0.1%	-12.8%	الفواكه المجففة والمكسرات
Preserved & frozen vegetable , legumes & soups	2.4%	-2.4%	3.0%	-4.5%	الخضروات المحفوظة والمجمدة والبقوليات والشوربات
Condensed milk & powder milk	2.3%	0.0%	4.6%	-8.5%	الحليب المكثف ومسحوق الحليب
Cheese	1.9%	-3.0%	1.5%	-0.3%	الجبن
Coffee	1.8%	-0.6%	1.1%	-7.3%	القهوة بأنواعها
Other Meat Products	1.5%	-1.7%	0.1%	-6.2%	منتجات أخرى للحوم
Eggs	1.4%	-2.5%	1.0%	-14.2%	البيض
Fresh potato	1.2%	6.6%	12.4%	27.0%	البطاطا الطازجة
Pastry products	0.8%	-1.5%	1.1%	0.0%	منتجات العجائن
Butter	0.3%	-0.7%	0.7%	-7.3%	الزبد

Food price falls – October 2009

Food Class	% of food basket	Sep-09	Oct-09	Oct/Jan	
Fresh fruits	9.3%	0.7%	-	-8.3%	الفواكه الطازجة
Fresh vegetables	8.0%	0.8%	-	-8.4%	الخضروات الطازجة
Fish	7.0%	-1.8%	-6.6%	3.6%	الأسماك
Chocolates, ice cream & confectioneries	4.0%	-1.2%	-0.2%	1.6%	الشوكولاته والبوظه (الأيس كريم) والحلويات
Margarine , other oils & fats	3.3%	1.2%	-2.8%	-11.1%	السمن والزيوت والدهون الأخرى
Spices, salt & pickles	3.0%	3.7%	0.0%	5.7%	البهارات والملح والمخللات
Other milk products	2.3%	1.0%	-1.4%	0.3%	منتجات الحليب الأخرى
Other bakery products	2.2%	0.9%	-1.4%	-0.5%	منتجات المخابز الأخرى
Seafood	1.5%	3.0%	-7.0%	-3.7%	المأكولات البحرية الأخرى
Tea	1.4%	-0.5%	-0.5%	1.0%	الشاي
Potato products	1.0%	1.6%	-3.1%	-19.5%	منتجات البطاطا
Other cereal products	1.0%	0.0%	-1.5%	0.0%	المنتجات الأخرى للحبوب
Veal	0.5%	-3.3%	-4.3%	-15.3%	لحم العجل
Canned fish & seafood	0.4%	0.6%	-0.1%	-5.7%	الأسماك والمأكولات البحرية المعلبة
Flour	0.4%	0.6%	-0.6%	-4.8%	الطحين

Rental Prices *New!*

Carrying a significant weight in Qatar's CPI, rental prices have a large effect on the overall price level. Rental types include villas, houses, self-contained flats (annexes adjoining another property) and apartments. It should be noted that a wide ranging survey of prices occurs monthly collecting over 800 rental prices. However, these are limited to either newly let properties or those currently available for occupancy. Therefore the prices do not fully reflect all currently occupied dwellings which will have, in many cases, pre-existing leases that do not display the price changes seen at the 'open' end of the market.

In October 2009, the Rental Price Index (RPI) was down 3.3 percent when compared to September. When compared to January 2009, the RPI was down 13.8 percent with the biggest drop (20.4%) seen in apartment rental prices.

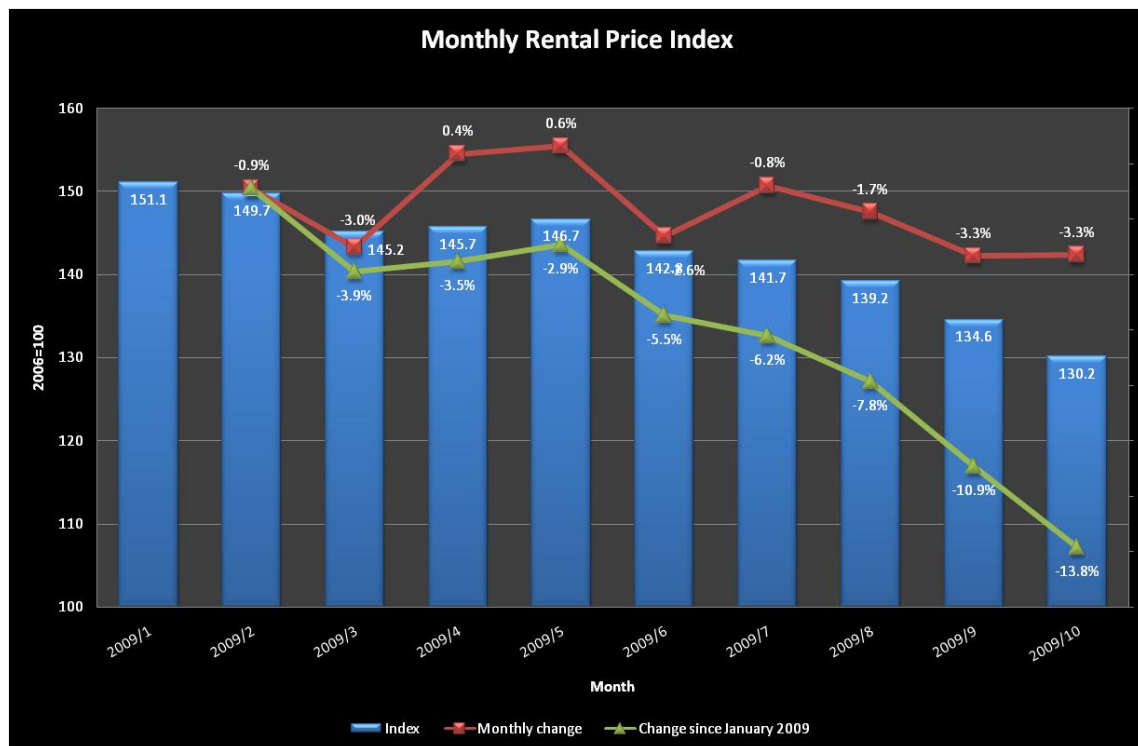


Figure 3: Monthly rental price index (RPI)

Further information:

For more detailed information, please visit www.qsa.gov.qa