



PRESS RELEASE

Botswana's Inflation Falls to 9.4 Percent in July 2026 as Transport Costs Decline

Gaborone, 14 August 2026 – Botswana's annual inflation rate declined significantly to **9.4 percent in July 2026**, representing a **1.3 percentage-point decrease** from the 10.7 percent recorded in June 2026, according to the latest Consumer Price Index (CPI) released by Statistics Botswana.

The decline in inflation was largely driven by a substantial reduction in transport costs, following decreases in retail pump prices for diesel and petrol during the month.

Transport remains the largest contributor

The **Transport group** remained the largest contributor to annual inflation in July 2026, accounting for **5.2 percentage points** of the overall inflation rate. This was followed by **Miscellaneous Goods & Services**, which contributed **1.2 percentage points**, while **Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages** contributed **1.0 percentage point**.

The Transport group index declined by **6.5 percent**, from 194.1 in June to 181.5 in July 2026.

The decline was mainly attributed to a **11.7 percent decrease in the Operation of Personal Transport section index**. This followed reductions in retail pump prices for **diesel (50ppm) and petrol (95)** by **P4.12 and P2.31 per litre**, respectively, effective 7 July 2026.

Inflation declines across all regions

Inflation decreased across all three geographical areas measured by the CPI.

Rural Villages recorded an inflation rate of **10.1 percent** in July 2026, down from 12.1 percent in June, representing a decrease of **2.0 percentage points**.

Inflation in **Cities & Towns** declined by **1.2 percentage points**, from 10.2 percent in June to **9.0 percent** in July.

Similarly, inflation in **Urban Villages** decreased by **1.0 percentage point**, from 10.4 percent to **9.4 percent** over the same period.

Consumer prices decline month-on-month

The national Consumer Price Index decreased by **1.8 percent**, from 151.6 in June to

148.8 in July 2026.

The Rural Villages index decreased by **2.2 percent**, from 153.9 to 150.5, while the Cities & Towns index declined by **1.8 percent**, from 150.4 to 147.7. The Urban Villages index decreased by **1.7 percent**, from 151.5 to 149.0.

Most group indices remained relatively stable between June and July, recording changes of less than 1.0 percent. The notable exception was the Transport group, which recorded a **6.5 percent decline**.

Tradeables inflation also eases

The All-Tradeables inflation rate declined by **3.3 percentage points**, from 15.2 percent in June to **11.9 percent in July 2026**.

Imported Tradeables inflation fell by **4.6 percentage points**, from 17.9 percent in June to **13.3 percent** in July.

In contrast, Non-Tradeables inflation increased by **1.7 percentage points**, from 3.9 percent to **5.6 percent**, while Domestic Tradeables inflation edged up by **0.2 percentage point**, from 7.9 percent to **8.1 percent**.

Core inflation presents mixed movements

The **Trimmed Mean Core Inflation** rate declined by **0.6 percentage point**, from 9.0 percent in June to **8.4 percent in July 2026**.

However, core inflation excluding administered prices increased by **0.4 percentage point**, from 5.9 percent in June to **6.3 percent** in July.

Other notable price movements

The **Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco** group index increased by **0.5 percent**, from 161.0 in June to 161.8 in July. This was driven by increases in the Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco section indices of 0.5 percent and 0.4 percent, respectively.

The **Health** group index increased by **0.4 percent**, from 119.3 to 119.7, mainly due to a **1.1 percent increase** in the Medical Products, Appliances & Equipment section index.

About the Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index is compiled and published monthly by **Statistics Botswana** and measures changes in the prices of goods and services consumed by households in Botswana. The CPI is an important economic indicator used to monitor inflationary trends and inform economic and monetary policy decisions.

For more information and enquiries, please contact the **Directorate of Stakeholder Relations** at **+267 367 1300**.

The July 2026 Consumer Price Index publication is available on the Statistics Botswana website and at the Statistics Botswana Information Resource Centre, Head Office, Gaborone.

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