Quick information note

MONTHLY PUBLICATION No. 07/26

MONTHLY REPORT ON THE EVOLUTION OF FINAL HOUSEHOLD CONSUMER PRICES IN CAMEROON

July 2026

Institut National de la Statistique • National Institute of Statistics
CAMEROUN • CAMEROON

In July 2026, final household consumer prices rose by 0.6%, compared to 0.5% in June. Year-on-year, the increase reached 3.4%, compared to 3.0% in June and 2.7% in May 2025, confirming the gradual resurgence of inflationary pressures observed since March 2026. Average inflation over the last twelve months remained stable at 2.6%, below the 3% threshold set in the CEMAC zone. This situation reflects a contrasting picture: the medium-term trend remains marked by disinflation, while recent developments indicate a rise in inflationary pressures, primarily driven by food prices, and more specifically, fresh products.

Compared to June 2026, final household consumer prices increased by 0.6% in July 2026. This follows a 0.5% increase the previous month. This rise is primarily driven by a 1.2% increase in food prices, as well as a 0.6% rise in the prices of the component "housing, water, gas, electricity, and other fuels". Within the food sector, vegetable prices increased by 2.3%, fish and seafood by 2.0%, and meat by 1.2%. Conversely, fruit prices fell by 1.2%, slightly mitigating the overall increase.

Year-on-year, inflation rose to 3.4% in July 2026, compared to 3.0% in June 2026, thus returning to its July 2025 level. After remaining at relatively low levels at the beginning of the year, it has been on an upward trajectory since March 2026, reflecting a gradual resurgence of price pressures. This increase is primarily driven by food products, whose prices have risen by 7.0% year-on-year, a rate more than twice that of the overall index. The continuation of this trend in the coming months could strengthen inflationary pressures.

On average over the last twelve months, the inflation rate remained stable at 2.6% in July 2026, compared to 4.0% a year earlier. It thus remains below the 3% convergence threshold set by the CEMAC. This trend indicates that the disinflation initiated in 2024 remains perceptible when assessed over a longer period. However, the increase in the year-on-year change observed since March 2026 is a signal to monitor: if recent pressures, particularly on food products, persist, they could gradually impact average inflation and alter its current trajectory.

The inflation rate shows significant disparities between regions, ranging from a decrease of 0.6% in Maroua[1] to a 4.8% increase in Bertoua. Inflation rates exceeding 3% were also recorded in Bafoussam (4.1%), Ngaoundere (3.5%), and Bamenda (3.4%). Conversely, they remained more moderate in Garoua, Douala, and Ebolowa (2.4% each), as well as in Buea (2.5%) and Yaounde (2.9%). These disparities reflect, in particular, differences in the availability of agricultural products, transport and distribution costs, and the specific supply and market access conditions of each region.

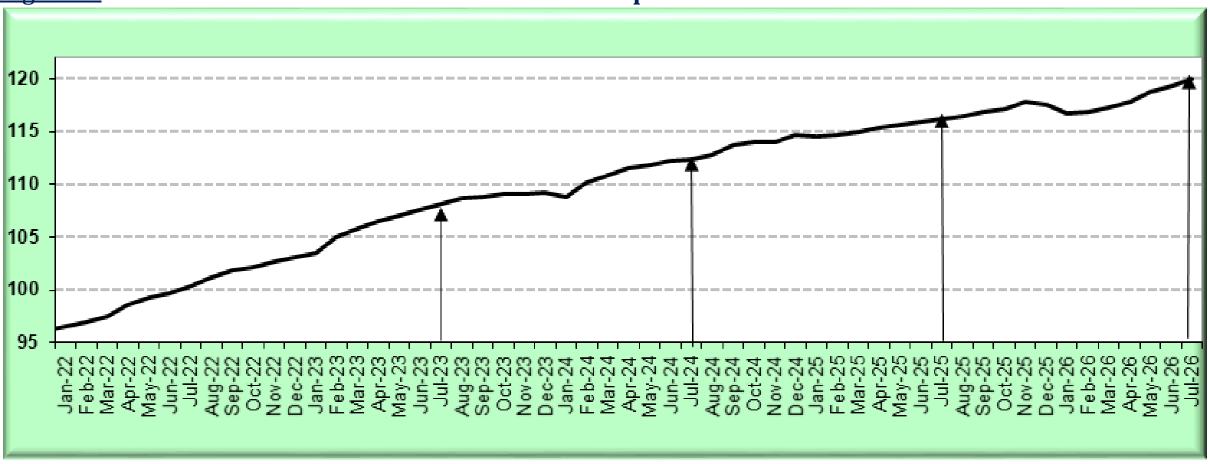
The underlying inflation rate[2] stands at 1.5%, This reflects relatively contained pressures once the most volatile components are excluded. Conversely, fresh product prices rose by 8.2%, while energy prices increased by 1.9%. The significant gap between core inflation and fresh product inflation shows that inflationary pressures remain primarily concentrated on volatile components, particularly food, without, at this stage, spreading broadly to the entire consumer basket. The relatively moderate increase in the energy component is mainly due to the absence of any impact on administered fuel pump prices from tensions observed in international energy markets.

By product origin, inflation remains driven more by internal factors. Prices for locally produced goods and services rose by 3.2%, compared to 1.1% for imported products. This difference reflects, in particular, the impact of constraints affecting domestic production and supply, transport and distribution costs, as well as climatic and seasonal factors on local supply. The pressures directly associated with imported products remain, in comparison, relatively contained.

Table 1: ***Change in final household consumer prices***

Change (%)	July 2025	May 2026	June 2026	July 2026
Monthly	0.2	0.9	0.5	**0.6**
Over one year	3.4	2.7	3.0	**3.4**
On average over the last twelve months	4.0	2.6	2.6	**2.6**

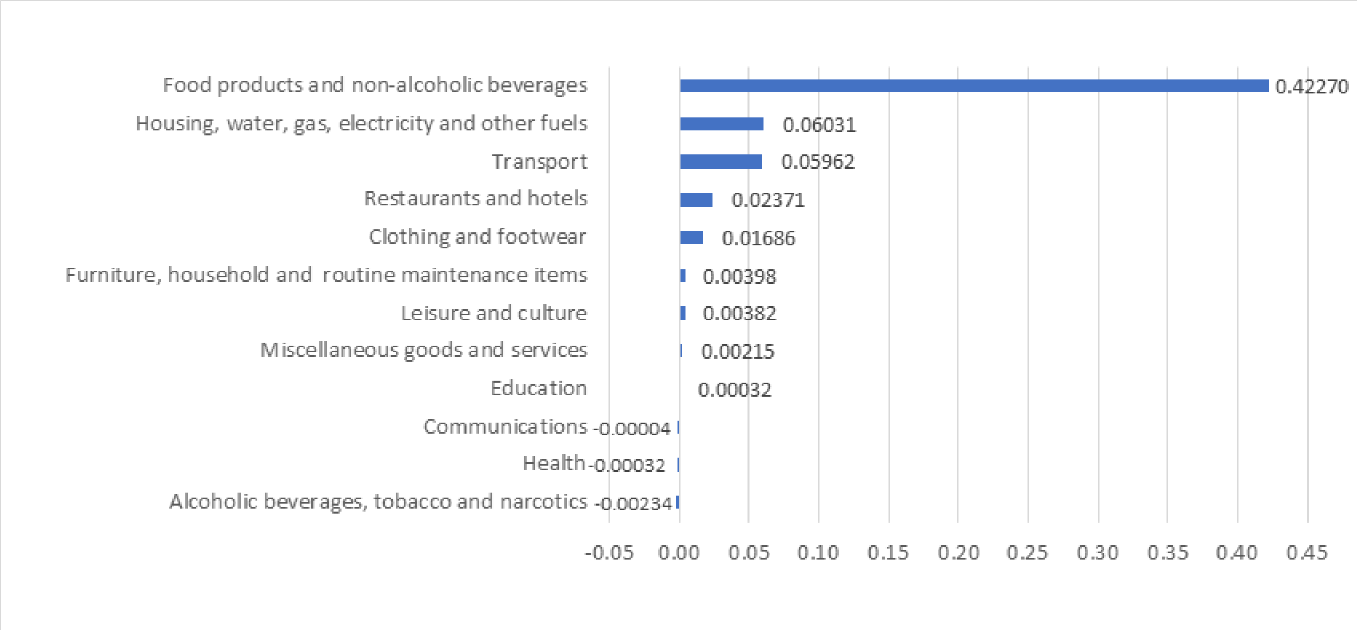
Figure 1: **Evolution of the final household consumer price index**



[1]See the box on pages 8 to 10

[2]Excluding products with high price variability, particularly petroleum products, domestic gas and fresh products.

Figure 2: **Contributions of consumption functions to the monthly change in the index**



Reading note:

- The contribution of consumption functions to the monthly change in the price index, shown in Figure 2 above, is an indicator used to analyse the impact of each product category on the overall monthly change in the index.
- A positive contribution from a category here indicates that it contributes to the rise in the consumer price index; conversely, a negative contribution indicates that it exerts a downward influence.
- The sum of the contributions to the monthly change of the index is equal to the monthly change.

Figure 3: **Changes in the final household consumer price index by product origin**

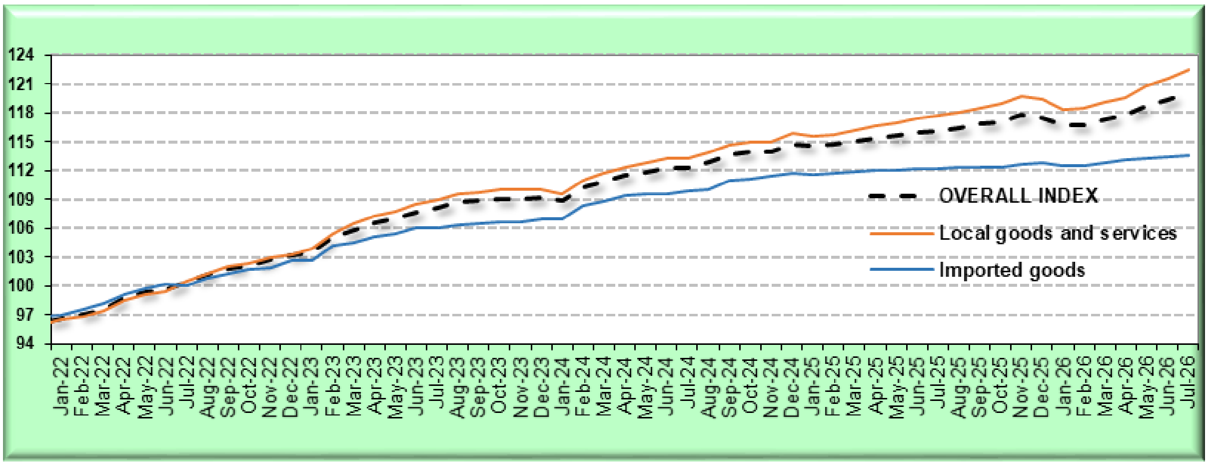
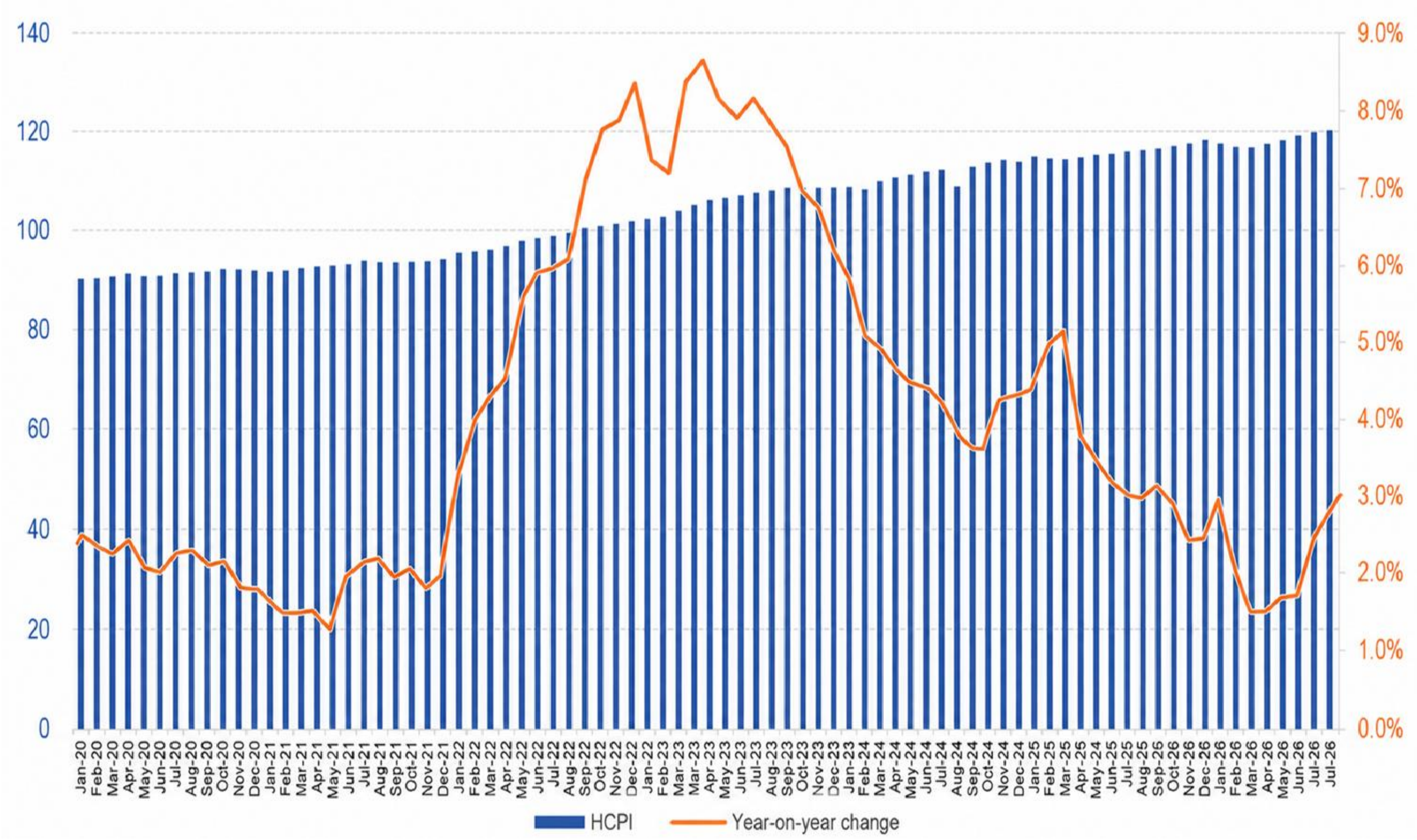


Table 2: ***Evolution of the Harmonised Consumer Price Index (Base year: 2022=100)***

Changes	**Index**												**Changes**		
	August 25	**Sept-25**	**Oct-25**	**Nov-25**	**Dec-25**	**Jan-26**	**Feb-26**	**March 26**	**Apr-26**	**May 26**	**June 26**	**July 26**	**July 26 / June 26**	**July 26 / July 25**	**August 25 to July 26 / August 24 to July 25**
CONSUMPTION FUNCTION															
Food products and non-alcoholic beverages	125.9	127.0	127.8	128.9	127.8	125.5	125.6	127.0	127.9	130.8	131.9	133.6	1.2%	6.8%	5.4%
Food products	126.6	127.8	128.6	129.7	128.6	126.1	126.3	127.8	128.6	131.6	132.8	134.5	1.2%	7.0%	5.5%
Breads and cereals	119.6	118.7	118.7	118.8	119.0	119.0	119.3	118.3	119.2	118.6	119.9	120.4	0.4%	0.6%	0.8%
Meats	110.7	111.5	111.9	116.4	113.2	112.3	113.5	115.6	118.0	119.9	122.4	123.8	1.2%	11.2%	5.1%
Fish and seafood	120.2	120.8	121.1	121.2	121.9	122.6	124.3	125.4	127.3	133.2	134.3	137.0	2.0%	15.1%	7.9%
Milk, cheese and eggs	114.5	115.0	115.3	114.5	115.9	115.4	115.6	115.8	114.8	116.4	115.6	115.5	0.0%	1.0%	1.3%
Oils and fats	105.6	106.6	107.9	108.0	108.7	107.3	107.8	105.7	104.3	101.7	103.1	103.6	0.4%	-0.4%	4.8%
Fruits	135.5	138.2	135.5	131.7	135.5	138.3	137.5	137.7	137.9	138.0	138.5	136.8	-1.2%	1.2%	2.9%
Vegetables	156.2	160.8	163.2	165.6	160.7	149.3	147.5	153.2	153.9	163.2	165.1	169.0	2.3%	10.1%	9.2%
Sugar and confectionery	106.4	106.4	106.5	107.0	107.0	107.4	107.6	107.3	107.6	107.7	107.4	107.6	0.2%	1.3%	0.0%
Food products nce	136.7	135.2	136.8	136.3	138.3	142.9	144.5	145.9	147.2	148.6	146.8	148.5	1.2%	10.1%	9.9%
Non-alcoholic beverages	105.3	105.2	105.2	105.3	105.4	105.6	105.6	105.6	105.7	105.6	105.7	105.9	0.2%	0.6%	0.8%
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics	110.4	110.4	110.4	110.7	111.2	111.2	111.0	111.0	110.9	111.1	111.8	111.7	-0.1%	1.3%	2.5%
Clothing and footwear	108.8	108.7	108.7	108.9	110.1	109.6	109.5	109.6	109.7	109.8	109.9	110.1	0.2%	1.4%	1.1%
Housing, water, gas, electricity and other fuels	109.4	109.2	109.5	110.3	110.5	110.4	110.5	110.4	111.4	111.7	112.1	112.7	0.6%	2.8%	2.0%
Furniture, household and routine maintenance items	110.5	110.5	110.4	110.7	110.7	110.6	110.6	110.6	110.7	110.8	110.7	110.8	0.1%	0.4%	0.5%
Health	102.1	102.1	102.1	102.1	102.1	102.2	102.2	102.2	102.2	102.3	102.4	102.4	0.0%	0.3%	0.4%
Transport	132.5	132.4	132.4	133.0	133.0	132.7	132.8	133.4	133.9	134.0	134.9	135.5	0.4%	2.4%	1.3%
Communications	100.0	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	0.0%	-0.2%	-0.3%
Leisure and culture	103.1	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.1	102.8	102.8	102.8	102.8	102.7	102.9	0.1%	-0.1%	0.0%
Education	107.2	107.2	107.2	107.2	107.2	107.2	107.2	107.2	107.2	107.2	107.3	107.3	0.0%	0.7%	1.0%
Restaurants and hotels	109.4	109.7	110.0	111.0	111.2	111.3	111.4	111.5	111.3	111.6	112.0	112.4	0.3%	2.7%	2.5%
Miscellaneous goods and services	109.3	109.4	109.4	109.4	109.7	109.5	109.5	109.6	109.6	109.8	109.9	109.9	0.0%	0.6%	0.8%
OVERALL INDEX	**116.5**	**116.8**	**117.1**	**117.7**	**117.6**	**116.7**	**116.8**	**117.3**	**117.7**	**118.7**	**119.3**	**120.0**	**0.6%**	**3.4%**	**2.6%**

Changes	Index												Changes		
	August 25	Sept-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	March 26	Apr-26	May 26	June 26	July 26	July 26 / June 26	July 26 / July 25	August 25 to July 26 / August 24 to July 25
SECONDARY NOMENCLATURES															
Local goods and services	118.0	118.5	118.9	119.7	119.4	118.3	118.4	119.1	119.5	120.9	121.6	122.5	0.8%	4.2%	3.2%
Imported goods	112.3	112.3	112.3	112.7	112.8	112.6	112.5	112.7	113.0	113.2	113.4	113.5	0.1%	1.2%	1.1%
Energy	119.7	119.4	119.6	121.1	121.1	120.4	120.4	121.1	122.9	123.3	123.9	124.6	0.6%	3.7%	1.9%
Fresh products	142.2	143.8	145.5	146.2	144.7	140.2	140.3	143.0	143.9	150.8	151.5	153.8	1.5%	10.1%	8.2%
Excluding fresh products and energy	111.6	111.8	111.8	112.4	112.4	112.2	112.3	112.4	112.6	112.6	113.2	113.6	0.4%	1.8%	1.5%
REGIONAL CAPITALS															
Yaounde	115.8	116.3	116.8	118.2	118.0	116.8	116.8	117.0	117.2	118.3	118.4	119.0	0.5%	3.2%	2.9%
Douala	117.0	118.0	118.6	118.9	118.0	117.1	117.1	117.8	117.8	119.1	119.2	120.1	0.7%	3.1%	2.4%
Maroua	118.2	117.3	116.2	116.6	116.0	115.3	115.5	116.0	116.2	117.8	119.5	121.5	1.6%	2.8%	-0.6%
Bafoussam	117.6	117.5	118.8	118.1	118.3	117.4	117.7	118.4	120.2	121.2	123.1	124.3	0.9%	6.6%	4.1%
Buea	117.2	116.9	116.6	117.2	117.7	117.2	117.4	117.6	117.9	118.3	118.6	117.6	-0.8%	0.0%	2.5%
Garoua	114.1	112.8	112.8	114.7	114.2	113.0	112.8	114.1	115.5	117.3	119.4	120.0	0.5%	5.0%	2.4%
Ebolowa	116.4	117.2	117.8	117.9	117.3	117.2	117.1	117.3	117.0	117.3	117.7	118.1	0.4%	1.6%	2.4%
Ngaoundere	117.5	118.4	118.0	118.4	119.4	118.4	118.5	119.2	120.1	119.8	121.1	121.7	0.5%	3.1%	3.5%
Bertoua	115.3	116.2	116.7	116.9	118.3	118.4	118.6	119.7	121.0	121.0	120.5	120.9	0.3%	6.1%	4.8%
Bamenda	114.6	115.4	116.1	115.6	116.9	116.5	116.6	116.8	117.5	117.9	118.3	118.9	0.5%	4.0%	3.4%

Figure 4: **Consumer price index and its year-on-year change**



Reading note:

The year-on-year change is an indicator that allows us to assess the evolution of prices between a given month and the same month of the previous year. Thus, the 3.4% increase noted in July 2026 means that a product that cost 100 FCFA in July 2025 now costs 103.4 FCFA.

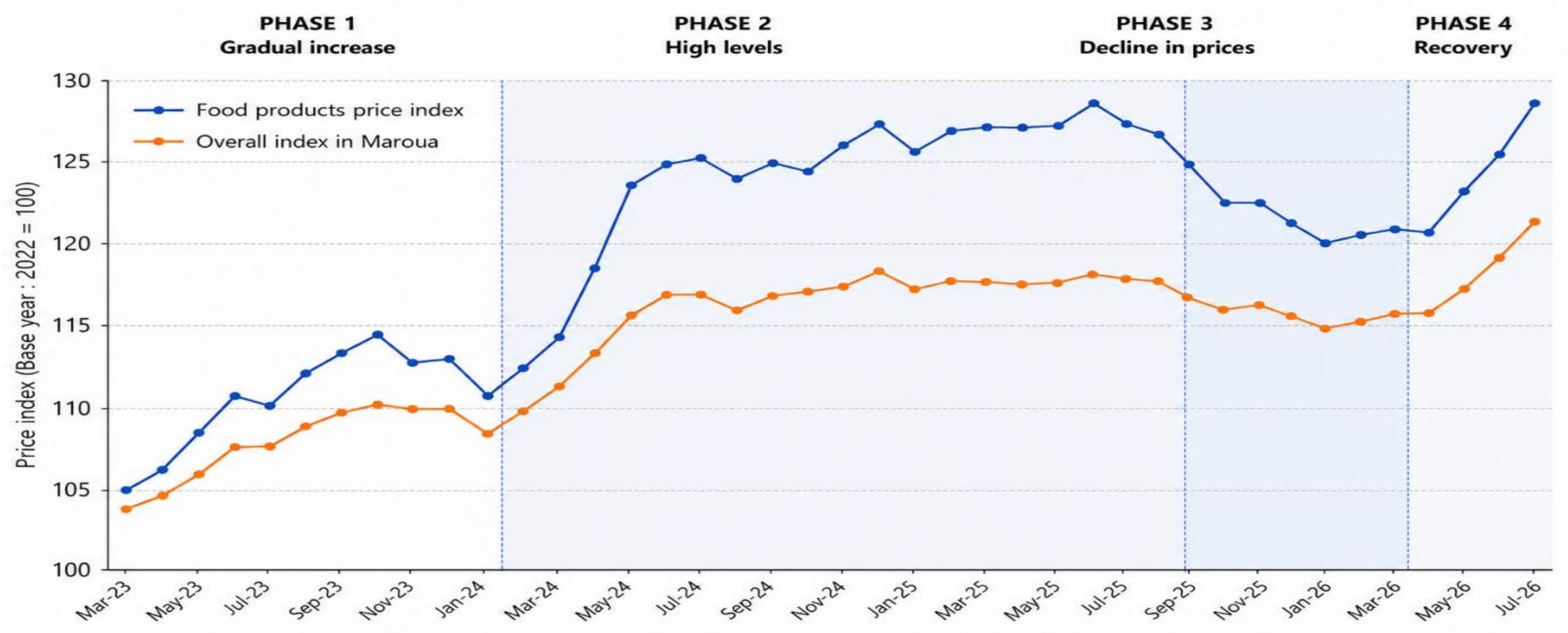
Box: **Deflation in Maroua, a situation of normalisation of food product prices since March 2026, after the sharp increases of 2024-2025**

After a marked increase between 2023 and 2024, the overall price level remained relatively high in Maroua in 2025, particularly the prices of several food products. A gradual easing of prices then began towards the end of 2025 and in early 2026. However, this trend reversed in the following months, with a price rebound that became more pronounced between May and July 2026.

Figure 5: **Evolution of the final household consumer price index in Maroua**

On average over the last twelve months, the overall price level in Maroua fell by 0.6% in July 2026. The deflation observed from March 2026 onwards was mainly due to the drop in price of several food products after the particularly high levels recorded in 2024 and over a large part of 2025. It therefore does not reflect an overall price decrease, but rather, the gradual normalisation of prices for certain food products that had risen sharply over the previous two years.

Figure 6: **Evolution of the food products price index and the overall price index in Maroua**



Cereals play a significant role in this evolution, given their substantial share in the household consumption. This is particularly true for millet, which accounted for 151.25 per 10,000. Its average index decreased by 16.1% between the periods April 2024-March 2025 and April 2025-March 2026. After reaching particularly high levels in 2024 and remaining elevated over a large part of 2025, its index fell back to 125.7 in March 2026, practically its March 2023 level (126.4). This normalisation is even more pronounced for white maize, whose index dropped from 115.3 in March 2023 to 72.7 in March 2026, a decrease of approximately 37%, placing it well below its 2023 level.

Figure 7: **Evolution of the price index for millet and white maize in Maroua**

In addition to the decline in cereal prices, prices for several fresh food products, notably onions and okra, have also fallen. Fresh onions, although less significant than millet, contribute substantially to the downward trend due to the extent of its price decrease. Thus, it is primarily those products that combine a significant weighting in the household basket and/or a sharp fall in price that have contributed to pull average inflation down.

The deflation observed from March 2026 onwards is also explained by a base effect. The twelve-month average inflation compares the average price level of the last twelve months to that of the previous twelve months. However, the comparison period includes months in 2024 and early 2025 during which prices, particularly food prices, were especially high. As these high levels are replaced in the calculation by lower levels recorded from the end of 2025 onwards, average inflation decreases. In March 2026, this effect, combined with the actual decline in the prices of several heavily weighted products, becomes significant enough to push average inflation below zero.

This situation does not, however, mean that the overall price level in Maroua has returned to its 2023 level. The return to 2023 levels mainly concerns certain products. Millet has practically returned to its March 2023 price, while white maize is even significantly lower. Conversely, other products remain more expensive, and the overall price index remains above its 2023 level. The observed deflation therefore primarily reflects a correction in the prices of certain food products after the severe price tensions of 2024-2025, rather than a generalised decrease in the cost of living.

INS NIS

Institut National de la Statistique • National Institute of Statistics

CAMEROUN • CAMEROON

Des statistiques de qualité pour un accompagnement sûr du Cameroun vers son émergence

Institut National de la Statistique • National Institute of Statistics
(+237) 222 220 445 - (+237) 222 225 421 - www.ins-cameroun.cm
20, rue 3004 - Quartier du Lac, Yaoundé - Cameroun • Cameroon