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STATISTICS CENTRE

**Press Release**

**Date: 16 April 2020**

**SCAD: Abu Dhabi consumer prices drop further in March**

- *The CPI decreased 2.6% in March 2020 compared with March 2019*
- *The CPI decreased 1.5% in March 2020 compared with February 2020*
- *The CPI decreased 2.2% in Q1 of 2020 compared with Q1 of 2019*
- *Housing, water, electricity, gas and fuel group contributed 70.3% of the overall decrease in CPI during Q1 2020 compared with Q1 2019*

**Abu Dhabi, 16 April 2020:** According to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) report for the month of March 2020 released recently by the Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi (SCAD), the CPI declined by 2.6% to 107.6 points in March 2020 down from 110.5 points in March 2019.

As further detailed in the report, the CPI dropped by 1.5% during March 2020 to 107.6 points, compared with 109.3 points in February 2020.

Furthermore, average consumer prices decreased by 2.2% during the



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first quarter (Q1) of 2020, with the CPI at 108.9 points, compared with 111.3 points during Q1 of 2019.

A breakdown of the report data by household welfare level indicates a 1.9% decline in consumer prices for households at the bottom welfare level, 2.2% for the middle welfare level and 2.1% for the top welfare level over the Q1 of 2020, compared with the same period in 2019.

Analysed by household type, the decline in consumer prices during Q1 of 2020 compared with the same period in 2019 was 2.0% for citizen households, 2.3% for non-citizens and 2.2% for share households.

SCAD's CPI report also lays out the contribution of the main 12 expenditure groups to the overall change in consumer prices. The groups are categorized according to the International Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP). The housing, water, electricity, gas and fuel group contributed 70.3% to the overall decrease in CPI during Q1 of 2020, compared with same period in 2019. The prices of this group dropped by 4.8%.

The miscellaneous goods and services group contributed 19.2% to the decrease recorded from January–March 2020 compared with the same period in 2019, as the group's prices fell by 5.5%. Additionally, the furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance



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group contributed 15.5% to the overall drop in Q1 of 2020 compared with the same period in 2019. The prices of this group fell by 4.6%.

The prices of the recreation and culture group, meanwhile, surged 8.7% in Q1 of 2020 compared to the same period in 2019, offsetting the overall y-o-y drop in the CPI during Q1 2020 by 19.6%.

SCAD's CPI report presents comparisons of monthly price data, along with analyses by household welfare, household type and geographical location. It also provides the percentage contribution of the major expenditure groups to annual price changes.

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### About Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi (SCAD)

Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi (SCAD) was established in 2008 in accordance with Law No. (7), to develop and organize statistical work in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in particular and the United Arab Emirates in general. SCAD's purpose is to produce statistical information that is consistent with the Emirate's orientation towards sustainable development and strategic plans under the supervision and with full support of the Executive Council of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

Being the of the official statistical data collection agency in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, the centre assumes the functions of preparing the statistical plans and programs that serve the emirate's wider development programs, conducting statistical surveys across the emirate. SCAD is also responsible for the collection, classification, storage, analysis and dissemination of official statistics and the release of the results of social, demographic, economic, environmental and cultural surveys.

The activities of the centre encompass all areas relating to social conditions in accordance with relevant international standards and ethics, such as independence, professionalism, impartiality, objectivity, confidentiality, cost effectiveness and quality of statistics.

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