



WEB RELEASE

THE COLOMBO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (Base Year 2013) – May 2018
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1. Introduction

The Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) is the authorized agency to compile Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI). The base year used for compilation of CCPI from June 2011 to December 2016 was the year 2006/07. Following internationally accepted guidelines, it has been arranged to revise the base year from 2006/07=100 to 2013=100 in order to accommodate the changing expenditure patterns and in cooperate changes of goods & services available in the market. Accordingly with respect to the new base, CCPI (Base 2013=100) will be released monthly commencing from January 2017 on the last working day of each month. It is emphasized that index numbers or inflation figures compiled under different base years cannot be compared.

The CCPI is compiled to indicate average changes in the prices of goods and services purchased by households in urban areas of Colombo district. Prices for items in the Colombo Consumer Price Index are collected from 14 selected centers located in Colombo namely Pettah, Maradana, Wellawatta, Dematagoda, Grandpass, Borella, Kirulapone, Dehiwala–Mt. Lavinia, Kotte, Nugegoda, Kolonnawa, Rathmalana, and Narahenpita and Rathmalana dedicated economic centers. Prices are collected weekly from the outlets located within each of the above market areas including Lak Sathosa and a supermarket. The consumer basket includes 392 items which represent the typical urban household consumption expenditure. The CPI weights are derived from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) 2012/13.

For more details on the revision of base year, please click here: [Technical Note on Base Year Revision](#)

Table 1- Monthly Changes by main Groups of Market Basket

Major Group*	Index Number			Monthly Changes of the Expenditure Values(Rs.)			Monthly Changes of the Index (%)		
	May 2017	Apr. 2018	May 2018	May 2017	Apr. 2018	May 2018	May 2017	Apr. 2018	May 2018
All Items	118.2	121.5	122.9	641.16	62.00	846.37	0.91	0.08	1.15
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	125.9	126.8	130.1	466.04	-82.78	557.65	0.66	-0.11	0.76
Non Food	115.2	119.4	120.0	175.13	144.78	288.72	0.25	0.20	0.39
Clothing and Footwear	126.7	130.8	133.5	12.24	-51.57	37.74	0.02	-0.07	0.05
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	110.2	110.7	111.4	21.52	0.04	147.00	0.03	0.00	0.20
Transport	96.2	100.4	101.9	16.98	93.62	98.34	0.02	0.13	0.13
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	134.6	139.2	139.5	66.74	13.52	5.72	0.09	0.02	0.01
Other	126.7	135.8	135.8	57.64	89.16	-0.07	0.08	0.12	0.00

*Note: There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in May 2018 were noted in five main groups, details on which are given in Table2.

2. Variations in Colombo Consumer Price Index

Month on month changes in the Colombo Consumer Price Index is briefly described below.

2.1 Month on Month (M on M) Change of CCPI:

The CCPI for all items for the month of May 2018 was 122.9 and it records an increase of 1.4 index points that is 1.15 percentage points compared to the month of April 2018 for which the index was 121.5. This represents an increase of expenditure value by Rs.846.37 in the “Market Basket”.

2.2 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the increase in CCPI from April to May 2018 are given in Table 2. An increase in the index point by 1.15% was due to the expenditure value increase of Food items by 0.76% and increase of Non Food items by 0.39%.

2.3 Contribution of Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages items 0.76%

Increases in value change were reported for Vegetables (0.4%), Sea Fish (0.24%), Limes (0.07%), Rice (0.06%), Potatoes (0.04%), Big Onion (0.04%), Dried Fish (0.03%), Egg (0.02%), Milk Powder (0.01%), Red Onion (0.01%), Chili Powder (0.01%), Curry powder (0.01%) and Ginger (0.01%) while decreases in value change were reported for Banana (0.04%), Coconuts (0.03%), Papaw (0.02%), Gram (0.01%) and Chicken (0.01%).

2.4 Contribution of Non Food items: 0.39%

Among Non-Food groups, increases in value change were reported for ‘Housing Water Electricity Gas and Other Fuels’ (0.2%), ‘Transport’ (0.13%), ‘Clothing and ‘Footwear’ (0.05%) and ‘Miscellaneous Goods and Services’ (0.01%). ‘Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics’ and ‘Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine House Hold Maintenance’ groups showed an insignificant value change while other groups remain unchanged during the period.

Table 02: Contribution to the change in CCPI from April 2018 to May 2018 (Base 2013=100)

Sub Group/Commodity	Value Change			
	Rs.Cts.	% change		
		Increase	Decrease	Net effect
Food	557.65	0.93	0.17	0.76
1 Rice	42.01	0.06		
<i>Rice - (Samba)</i>	38.54	0.05		
2 Gram	-5.14		0.01	
3 Chicken	-4.74		0.01	
4 Sea Fish	178.30	0.24		
5 Dried fish	19.78	0.03		
<i>Sprats</i>	8.51	0.01		
6 Milk powder	4.88	0.01		
7 Eggs	11.49	0.02		
8 Coconut	-21.38		0.03	
9 Banana	-31.37		0.04	
10 Papaw	-15.24		0.02	
11 Vegetables	292.72	0.40		
12 Potatoes	28.10	0.04		
13 Red onions	8.32	0.01		
14 Big onions	27.48	0.04		
15 Chili powder	5.56	0.01		
16 Curry powder	5.97	0.01		
17 Limes	49.24	0.07		
18 Ginger	7.09	0.01		
19 Others	-45.42		0.06	
Non Food	288.72	0.39		0.39
20 Clothing & Footwear	37.74	0.05		
21 Housing,Water,Electricity,Gas and Other Fuels	147.00	0.20		
<i>L P Gas</i>	111.07	0.15		
<i>Kerosene oil</i>	35.93	0.05		
22 Transport	98.34	0.13		
<i>Petrol</i>	79.54	0.11		
<i>Diesel</i>	18.21	0.02		
23 Miscellaneous Goods and Services	5.72	0.01		
24 Others	-0.07		0.00	
All Items	846.37			1.15

3. INFLATION:

The CCPI is an economic indicator constructed to measure inflation which is defined as percentage change in CCPI over the year. There are two measures of inflation in general use. One measure is Year on Year base or Point to Point inflation (The percentage change in the CPI during the last 12 months). The other measure is Moving Average Inflation (The percentage difference between the average Price Index of last 12 months & the average Price Index of previous 12 months).

Table 3: Movements of the CCPI (Base: 2013=100)

Year	Month	Index Number	All Item			Food			Non Food		
			%Change Month to Month	Inflation %		%Change Month to Month	Inflation %		%Change Month to Month	Inflation %	
				Y on Y	12 Months Moving Avg.		Y on Y	12 Months Moving Avg.		Y on Y	12 Months Moving Avg.
2017	May	118.2	0.9	6.0	5.4	2.3	9.3	7.6	0.3	4.6	4.5
	June	120.1	1.6	6.1	5.5	4.8	9.1	7.6	0.3	4.8	4.6
	July	119.4	-0.6	4.8	5.4	-1.7	4.8	7.0	-0.2	4.7	4.7
	August	118.8	-0.5	6.0	5.5	-2.5	6.9	6.9	0.5	5.7	4.9
	September	119.7	0.8	7.1	5.8	1.6	10.4	7.1	0.3	5.5	5.2
	October	120.8	0.9	7.8	6.1	2.6	12.6	7.6	0.3	5.8	5.4
	November	122.2	1.2	7.6	6.4	1.7	13.8	8.4	0.9	5.0	5.5
	December	122.9	0.6	7.1	6.6	1.3	14.4	9.3	0.2	4.2	5.5
2018	January	122.8	-0.1	5.8	6.6	-1.9	10.5	9.8	0.8	3.8	5.3
	February	121.9	-0.7	4.5	6.4	-2.9	6.0	9.6	0.1	3.8	5.0
	March	121.4	-0.4	4.2	6.1	-1.5	5.1	9.2	0.1	3.7	4.8
	April	121.5	0.1	3.8	5.9	-0.4	3.0	8.8	0.3	4.0	4.6
	May	122.9	1.2	4.0	5.7	2.6	3.3	8.3	0.5	4.2	4.6

3.1 Year on Year (YoY) Inflation

The YoY inflation as measured by CCPI is 4.0% in May 2018 and inflation calculated for April was 3.8% (Table3). YoY inflation of Food Group has increased from 3.0% in April 2018 to 3.3% in May 2018 while that of Non-food Group increased from 4.0% in April to 4.2% in May during this period.

3.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of May 2018, on year to year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was 1.01%.

The contribution of Non Food items was 2.93%. This was mainly due to increases in value change in groups of 'Education' (0.58%), 'Transport' (0.51%), 'Health' (0.47%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (0.37%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment's & Routine Household Maintenance' (0.34%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (0.34%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.14%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.13%), 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.04%), 'Recreation and Culture' (0.03%) and while decrease in value change in the group of 'Communication' (0.02%).

3.3 Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of May 2018 was 5.7%. The corresponding rate for the month of April was 5.9%.

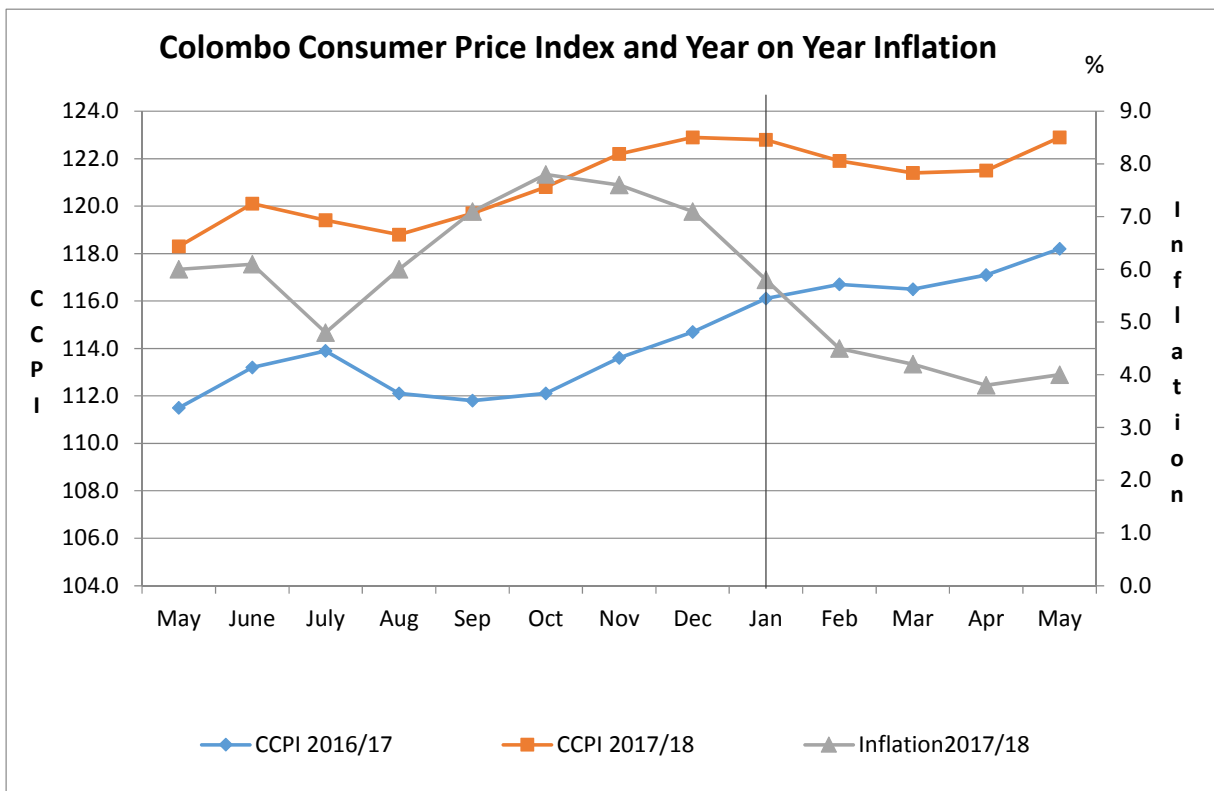


Table 4 : Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index (May 2017, May 2018 & April 2018)

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2017 May	2018 April	2018 May	May.18/ May.17	May. 18 / Apr.18
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	81.65	86.21	86.20	5.57	-0.02
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	78.77	81.35	81.78	3.82	0.54
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	83.53	85.83	86.51	3.57	0.79
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	89.82	99.36	98.20	9.33	-1.17
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	92.55	105.22	108.35	17.08	2.98
6. Cowpea	Kg	322.63	292.35	294.12	-8.84	0.61
7.Green Grams	Kg	252.39	243.30	245.19	-2.85	0.78
8. Coconut	Each	65.44	78.00	77.18	17.93	-1.06
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	298.35	287.94	285.01	-4.47	-1.02
10.Chicken	Kg	479.17	497.75	495.54	3.42	-0.44
11. Eggs	Each	14.20	13.11	14.00	-1.42	6.80
12. Red Onion	Kg	210.43	185.19	199.05	-5.41	7.49
13. Big Onion	Kg	95.47	86.31	96.77	1.36	12.12
14. Potatoes	Kg	138.20	113.86	125.40	-9.26	10.13
15. Garlic	Kg	526.78	282.87	275.27	-47.75	-2.69
16. Dried Chillies	Kg	258.97	294.82	302.68	16.88	2.67
17. Green Chillies	Kg	282.29	200.06	201.29	-28.69	0.62
18. Sugar	Kg	107.28	108.69	108.46	1.10	-0.21
19. Pepper	Kg	1818.20	1580.47	1598.43	-12.09	1.14
Vegetables-						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	135.67	132.45	130.95	-3.47	-1.13
21. Carrot	Kg	251.20	146.79	190.98	-23.97	30.10
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	170.20	139.02	154.26	-9.37	10.96
23. Tomatoes	Kg	160.68	86.95	130.30	-18.91	49.86
24. Capsicum	Kg	280.49	192.64	222.27	-20.76	15.38
25. Beetroot	Kg	205.08	105.18	133.82	-34.75	27.23
26. Beans	Kg	251.36	205.12	269.73	7.31	31.50
Fruits						
27. Banana	Kg	113.07	137.73	100.75	-10.90	-26.85
28. Papaw	Kg	96.52	101.25	94.04	-2.56	-7.11
29. Mangoes	Each	85.98	83.67	60.11	-30.08	-28.15
Fresh Fish –						
30. Seer	Kg	1416.92	1446.89	1547.14	9.19	6.93
31.Talapath	Kg	1013.85	1066.20	1114.44	9.92	4.52
32.Paraw	Kg	956.23	954.99	1060.08	10.86	11.00
Dried Fish -						
33.Katta	Kg	1222.41	1239.28	1286.16	5.22	3.78
34. Sprats	Kg	730.25	727.45	744.94	2.01	2.40
Fuel -						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	44.00	44.00	64.36	46.27	46.27
36 .Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	117.00	121.50	127.04	8.58	4.56
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	95	97.50	101.61	6.95	4.21
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	1321.00	1431.00	1632.25	23.56	14.06
Litro	12.5kg	1321.00	1431.00	1632.25	23.56	14.06
Laughs	12.5kg	1321.00	1431.00	1632.25	23.56	14.06

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