



WEB RELEASE

THE COLOMBO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (Base Year 2013) – SEPTEMBER 2018 DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

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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 (%)		
	Sep 2017	Aug 2018	Sep 2018	Sep 2017	Aug 2018	Sep 2018	Sep 2017	Aug 2018	Sep 2018
All Items	119.7	125.8	124.9	507.27	-30.53	-532.89	0.71	-0.04	-0.70
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	128.4	135.9	131.3	348.19	-181.88	-793.58	0.49	-0.24	-1.05
Non Food	116.2	121.8	122.4	159.07	151.35	260.69	0.22	0.20	0.34
Alcoholic beverages									
Tobacco and Narcotic	185.7	196.4	200.4	-0.77	34.61	25.28	0.00	0.05	0.03
Clothing and Foot Wear	130.8	135.3	136.9	83.09	5.95	22.28	0.12	0.01	0.03
Transport	97.9	109.6	110.3	0.00	116.81	44.70	0.00	0.15	0.06
Recreation and Culture	109.7	112.6	114.1	0.00	0.00	12.23	0.00	0.00	0.02
Education	130.9	139.7	142.6	68.16	0.00	103.48	0.10	0.00	0.14
Restaurant and Hotels	115.5	130.1	131.8	0.00	0.00	52.04	0.00	0.00	0.07
Other	116.6	119.2	119.2	8.59	-6.01	0.68	0.01	-0.01	0.00

*Note : There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in September 2018 were noted in seven 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 was briefly described below.

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

The CCPI for all items for the month of September 2018 was 124.9 and it records decrease of 0.70 percentage point compared to the month of August 2018 for which the index was 125.8. This represents a decrease of expenditure value by Rs.532.89 in the "Market Basket".

2.1.1 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the change in CCPI from August to September 2018 were given in Table 2. The decrease in the index point by 0.70% was due to the expenditure value decrease of Food items by 1.05% and increase of Non Food items by 0.34%.

2.1.2 Contribution of Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages items: -1.05%

Decreases in value change were reported for Vegetables (0.60%), Coconut nuts (0.18%), Sea Fish (0.18%), Green Chilies (0.16%), Eggs (0.02%), Potatoes (0.02%), Big Onions (0.02%), Dried Fish (0.01%) Coconut Oil (0.01%), Garlic (0.01%), Chili Powder (0.01%) and Ginger (0.01%).

While Increases in value change were reported for Bread (0.04%), Banana (0.04%), Papaw (0.04%), Rice (0.03%), Chicken (0.02%), Mangoes (0.01%), Dhal Mysoor (0.01%) and Sugar (0.01%).

2.4 Contribution of Non Food items: 0.34%

Among Non-Food groups, increases in value change were reported for 'Education' (0.14%), 'Restaurant and Hotels' (0.07%), 'Transport' (0.06%), 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.03%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.03%) and Recreation and Culture' (0.02%)'

While 'Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' group showed an insignificant value change while other groups remain unchanged during the period.

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

Sub Group/Commodity		Value Change			
		Rs.Cts.	% change		
			Increase	Decrease	Net effect
Food		-793.58	0.19	1.23	-1.05
1	Rice	20.99	0.03		
	<i>Rice - (Samba)</i>	<i>16.51</i>	<i>0.02</i>		
2	Bread	29.45	0.04		
3	Chicken	16.36	0.02		
4	Sea Fish	-140.36		0.18	
5	Dried Fish	-10.10		0.01	
6	Eggs	-15.36		0.02	
7	Coconut (Nuts)	-132.87		0.18	
8	Coconut oil	-4.79		0.01	
9	Banana	33.07	0.04		
10	Papaw	33.66	0.04		
11	Mangoes	6.86	0.01		
12	Vegetables	-456.70		0.60	
13	Potatoes	-16.32		0.02	
14	Dhal - Mysoor	4.07	0.01		
15	Big onions	-14.92		0.02	
16	Garlic	-3.95		0.01	
17	Green chilies	-119.13		0.16	
18	Sugar	4.77	0.01		
19	Chili powder	-6.97		0.01	
20	Ginger	-10.02		0.01	
21	Others	-11.33		0.01	
	Non Food	260.69	0.34		0.34
22	ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO AND NARCOTICS	25.28	0.03		
	<i>Arrack</i>	<i>7.62</i>	<i>0.01</i>		
	<i>Cigarettes</i>	<i>13.83</i>	<i>0.02</i>		
23	CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR	22.28	0.03		
24	TRANSPORT	44.70	0.06		
	<i>Petrol and other fuel</i>	<i>33.34</i>	<i>0.04</i>		
	<i>Diesel</i>	<i>10.29</i>	<i>0.01</i>		
25	RECREATION AND CULTURE	12.23	0.02		
	<i>Exercise books and stationeries.</i>	<i>12.23</i>	<i>0.02</i>		
26	EDUCATION	103.48	0.14		
	<i>School fees - Primary (International)</i>	<i>56.24</i>	<i>0.07</i>		
	<i>School fees - Secondary (International)</i>	<i>47.24</i>	<i>0.06</i>		
27	RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	52.04	0.07		
28	Others	0.68	0.00		
	All Items	-532.89	-0.70		-0.70

*Percentages of items do not tally with overall percentage due to rounding off.

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	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
	June	125.4	2.0	4.4	5.6	4.4	2.9	7.7	1.1	5.0	4.6
	July	125.8	0.3	5.4	5.6	0.9	5.6	7.8	0.1	5.3	4.7
	August	125.8	0.0	5.9	5.6	-0.8	7.5	7.8	0.3	5.1	4.6
	September	124.9	-0.7	4.3	5.4	-3.4	2.3	7.1	0.5	5.3	4.6

3.1 Year on Year (YoY) Inflation

The YoY inflation as measured by CCPI is 4.3% in September 2018 and inflation calculated for August was 5.9% (Table3). YoY inflation of Food Group has decreased from 7.5% in August 2018 to 2.3% in September 2018 and that of Non-food Group has increase from 5.1% in August to 5.3% in September during this period.

3.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of September 2018, on year to year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was 0.68%. The contribution of Non Food items was 3.67%. This was mainly due to increases in value change in groups of 'Transport' (1.10%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (0.70%), 'Education' (0.57%), 'Health' (0.47%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (0.32%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.12%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.13%), 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.13%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment's & Routine Household Maintenance' (0.09%), and 'Recreation and Culture' (0.05%).

3.3 Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of September 2018 was 5.4%. The corresponding rate for the month of August was 5.6%.

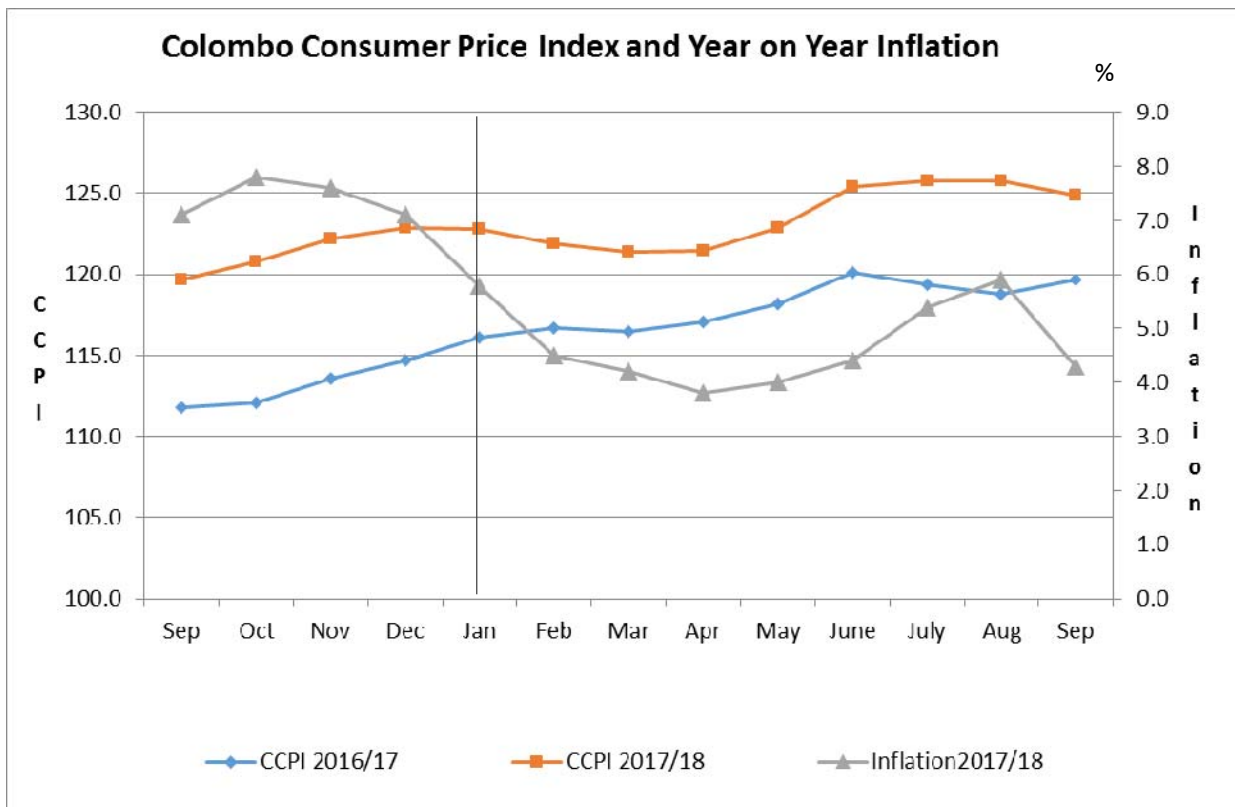


Table 4 : Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index (September 2017, August 2018 & September 2018)

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2017 Sep	2018 Aug	2018 Sep	Sep.18/ Sep.17	Sep. 18 / Aug18
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	87.01	79.50	79.88	-8.19	0.48
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	82.37	80.52	80.45	-2.33	-0.08
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	92.59	84.85	85.38	-7.79	0.63
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	97.14	94.90	95.12	-2.08	0.23
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	100.64	109.30	110.64	9.93	1.23
6. Cowpea	Kg	324.82	276.00	273.95	-15.66	-0.74
7.Green Grams	Kg	253.96	245.32	247.72	-2.46	0.98
8. Coconut	Each	65.45	66.13	60.98	-6.84	-7.79
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	287.87	281.81	277.83	-3.48	-1.41
10.Chicken	Kg	471.47	507.78	515.40	9.32	1.50
11. Eggs	Each	13.75	19.33	18.14	31.93	-6.16
12. Red Onion	Kg	279.09	176.27	170.87	-38.77	-3.06
13. Big Onion	Kg	142.78	110.40	104.72	-26.65	-5.14
14. Potatoes	Kg	141.27	149.34	142.64	0.97	-4.49
15. Garlic	Kg	336.79	242.43	225.57	-33.02	-6.96
16. Dried Chillies	Kg	239.78	308.83	309.54	29.10	0.23
17. Green Chillies	Kg	449.93	757.57	310.15	-31.07	-59.06
18. Sugar	Kg	109.32	104.43	105.69	-3.31	1.21
19. Pepper	Kg	1680.27	1523.39	1507.16	-10.30	-1.07
Vegetables-						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	140.73	155.56	145.61	3.47	-6.40
21. Carrot	Kg	146.82	294.32	259.07	76.45	-11.98
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	154.96	186.28	157.09	1.38	-15.67
23. Tomatoes	Kg	203.47	188.16	99.76	-50.97	-46.98
24. Capsicum	Kg	190.87	377.76	226.91	18.88	-39.93
25. Beetroot	Kg	135.82	234.56	157.56	16.01	-32.83
26. Beans	Kg	248.05	341.51	232.31	-6.35	-31.98
Fruits						
27. Banana	Kg	163.04	140.84	147.85	4.98	-9.32
28. Papaw	Kg	104.32	121.08	136.98	31.32	13.13
29. Mangoes	Each	116.65	68.08	81.71	-29.96	20.01
Fresh Fish –						
30. Seer	Kg	1477.32	1706.32	1621.59	9.77	-4.97
31. Talapath	Kg	1121.46	1144.97	1121.17	-0.03	-2.08
32. Paraw	Kg	1076.60	1157.07	1102.05	2.36	-4.76
Dried Fish -						
33. Katta	Kg	1249.57	1326.42	1312.43	5.03	-1.05
34. Sprats	Kg	765.42	765.31	760.36	-0.66	-0.65
Fuel -						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	44.00	70.00	70.00	59.09	0.00
36. Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	117.00	145.00	147.32	25.91	1.60
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	95.00	118.00	120.32	26.65	1.97
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	1321.00	1538.00	1538.00	16.43	0.00
Litro	12.5kg	1321.00	1538.00	1538.00	16.43	0.00
Laughs	12.5kg	1321.00	1538.00	1538.00	16.43	0.00

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