



WEB RELEASE

THE COLOMBO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (Base Year 2013) – JUNE 2019

DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

TEL: 011-2147414

FAX: 011-2877945

June 28, 2019

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 (%)		
	June 2018	May 2019	June 2019	June 2018	May 2019	June 2019	June 2018	May 2019	June 2019
All Items	125.4	129.0	130.2	1549.93	1243.28	742.47	2.09	1.62	0.95
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	135.8	131.1	134.5	979.79	945.74	572.62	1.32	1.23	0.74
Non Food	121.3	128.2	128.6	570.14	297.54	169.85	0.77	0.39	0.22
Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	190.6	220.1	219.5	0.28	4.95	-3.99	0.00	0.01	-0.01
Clothing and Foot Wear	133.8	143.9	145.1	4.25	15.41	17.06	0.01	0.02	0.02
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	111.9	115.7	115.6	81.42	0.00	-15.91	0.11	0.00	-0.02
Health	156.3	175.9	177.5	0.00	24.79	43.98	0.00	0.03	0.06
Transport	107.9	111.4	113.6	386.27	25.78	139.71	0.52	0.03	0.18
Restaurant and Hotels	126.6	135.9	136.3	92.95	105.32	12.48	0.13	0.14	0.02
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	139.7	147.2	145.8	2.97	116.12	-27.21	0.00	0.15	-0.03
Other	129.4	138.6	138.6	1.99	5.16	3.72	0.00	0.01	0.00

*Note : There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in June 2019 were noted in eight 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 June 2019 was 130.2 and it records an increase of 1.2 index points that is 0.95 percentage points compared to the month of May 2019 for which the index was 129.0. This represents an increase of expenditure value by Rs.742.47 in the “Market Basket”.

2.1.1 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the change in CCPI from May 2019 to June 2019 were given in Table 2. An increase in the index point by 0.95% was due to the expenditure value increases of Food items by 0.74% and Non Food items by 0.22% respectively.

2.1.2 Contribution of Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages items: 0.74%

As shown in Table 02, Increases in value change were reported for Sea Fish (0.27%), Vegetables (0.25%), Big Onions (0.06%), Papaw (0.04%), Dried Fish (0.03%), Red Onions (0.03%), Green Chillies (0.03%), Potatoes (0.02%), Banana (0.01%) and Limes (0.01%).

While decreases in value change were reported for Coconuts (0.04%), Eggs (0.02%) and Coconut Oil (0.01%).

2.1.3 Contribution of Non Food items: 0.22%

Among Non-Food groups, increases in value change were reported for ‘Transport’ (0.18%), ‘Health’ (0.06%), ‘Clothing and Footwear’ (0.02%) and ‘Restaurant and Hotels’ (0.02%). While decreases in value change were reported in ‘Miscellaneous Goods and Services’ (0.03%), ‘Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels’ (0.02%) and ‘Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics’ (0.01%).

However, an insignificant value change in expenditure value was reported for the group of ‘Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance’ and all other groups remain unchanged during the month.

Table 2: Contribution to the change in CCPI from May 2019 to June 2019 (Base 2013=100)

Sub Group/Commodity		Value Change			
		Rs.Cts.	% change		
			Increase	Decrease	Net effect
Food		572.62	0.81	0.07	0.74
1	Rice	2.38	0.00		
	<i>Rice - (Kekulu white)</i>	8.08	0.01		
	<i>Rice - (Samba)</i>	-11.35		0.01	
2	Sea Fish	206.44	0.27		
3	Dried Fish	25.41	0.03		
	<i>Sprats (dry)</i>	9.56	0.01		
	<i>Katta (dry)</i>	10.58	0.01		
4	Eggs	-17.72		0.02	
5	Coconut (Nuts)	-34.63		0.04	
6	Coconut oil	-4.31		0.01	
7	Banana	10.02	0.01		
8	Papaw	32.53	0.04		
9	Vegetables	191.28	0.25		
10	Potatoes	16.89	0.02		
11	Red onions	20.02	0.03		
12	Big onions	47.19	0.06		
13	Green chilies	24.80	0.03		
14	Limes	8.98	0.01		
15	Others	43.34	0.06		
Non Food		169.85	0.28	0.06	0.22
16	Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	-3.99		0.01	
	<i>Betel leaves</i>	-3.94		0.01	
17	Clothing & Footwear	17.06	0.02		
18	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	-15.91		0.02	
	<i>Maintenance/ Reconstruction</i>	-15.91		0.02	
19	Health	43.98	0.06		
	<i>Purchase of medical/ pharmacy products</i>	43.98	0.06		
20	Transport	139.71	0.18		
	<i>Petrol and other fuel</i>	74.39	0.10		
	<i>Diesel</i>	-10.69		0.01	
	<i>Airline fare</i>	74.63	0.10		
21	Restaurants and Hotels	12.48	0.02		
22	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	-27.21		0.03	
23	Others	3.72			
	All Items	742.47	1.09	0.13	0.95

*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.
2018	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
	October	124.6	-0.2	3.1	5.0	-0.2	-2.3	5.9	0.5	5.5	4.6
	November	126.2	1.3	3.3	4.6	3.0	-1.0	4.6	0.6	5.2	4.6
	December	126.3	0.1	2.8	4.3	0.8	-1.5	3.3	-0.3	4.7	4.6
2019	January	127.4	0.9	3.7	4.1	-2.5	-2.1	2.3	2.4	6.3	4.9
	February	126.8	-0.5	4.0	4.1	-2.1	-1.4	1.7	0.2	6.4	5.1
	March	126.6	-0.2	4.3	4.1	-1.6	-1.4	1.2	0.4	6.7	5.3
	April	127.0	0.3	4.5	4.1	0.1	-0.9	0.9	0.4	6.8	5.6
	May	129.0	1.6	5.0	4.2	4.4	0.8	0.7	0.5	6.8	5.8
	June	130.2	0.9	3.8	4.2	2.6	-1.0	0.3	0.3	6.0	5.9

3.1 Year on Year (YoY) Inflation

The YoY inflation as measured by CCPI is 3.8% in June 2019 and inflation calculated for May 2019 was 5.0% (Table 3). YoY inflation of Food Group has decreased from 0.8% in May 2019 to -1.0% in June 2019 while that of Non-food Group has decreased from 6.8% in May 2019 to 6.0% in June 2019.

3.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of June 2019, on year to year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was -0.31%.

The contribution of Non Food items was 4.14%. This was mainly due to increases in value change in groups of 'Education' (1.0%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (0.95%), 'Health' (0.74%), 'Transport' (0.48%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (0.40%), 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.24%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.21%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment's & Routine Household Maintenance' (0.16%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.16%) and 'Recreation and Culture' (0.04%) and decrease in value change was reported for the group 'Communication' (0.25%).

3.3 Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of June 2019 was 4.2%. The corresponding rate for the month of May 2019 was also 4.2%.

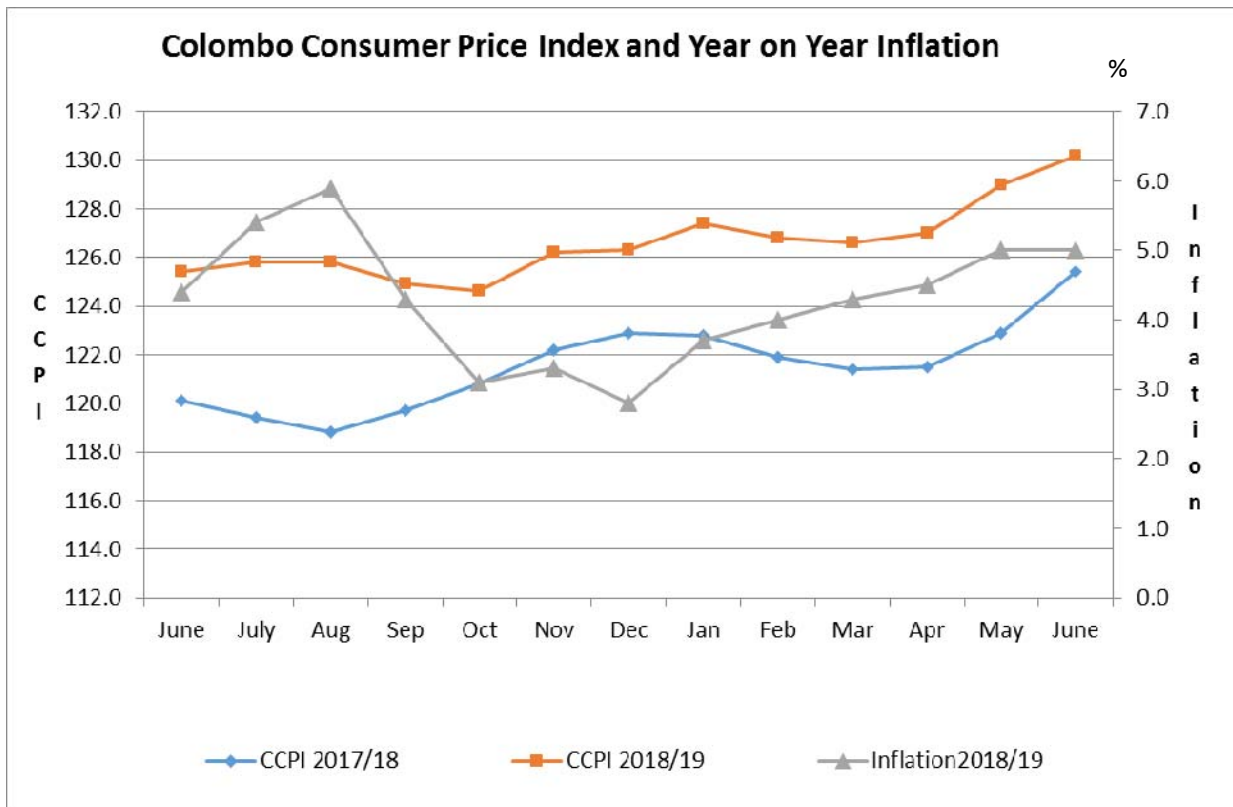


Table 4 : Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index (June, 2019 & May, June 2018)

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2018 June	2019 May	2019 June	June 19/ June18	June 19 / May19
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	84.88	78.34	79.13	-6.77	0.49
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	82.63	84.20	85.93	3.99	2.06
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	86.72	90.17	90.95	4.88	0.87
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	98.33	90.37	90.42	-8.04	0.06
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	108.36	102.69	101.76	-6.09	-0.90
6. Cowpea	Kg	286.09	281.80	288.32	0.78	2.31
7.Green Grams	Kg	243.86	270.66	278.25	14.10	2.80
8. Coconut	Each	77.22	51.60	50.25	-34.92	-2.60
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	287.31	261.78	258.21	-10.13	-1.37
10.Chicken	Kg	503.52	508.04	507.98	0.89	-0.01
11. Eggs	Each	16.10	17.82	16.45	2.14	-7.71
12. Red Onion	Kg	179.86	173.01	206.37	14.74	19.28
13. Big Onion	Kg	103.07	89.55	107.51	4.30	20.05
14. Potatoes	Kg	136.34	155.56	162.50	19.18	4.46
15. Garlic	Kg	272.68	330.08	335.94	23.20	1.78
16. Dried Chilies	Kg	303.30	336.60	337.73	11.35	0.34
17. Green Chilies	Kg	400.23	365.77	458.92	14.66	25.46
18. Sugar	Kg	105.52	105.99	106.03	0.48	0.04
19. Pepper	Kg	1563.23	1499.21	1498.58	-4.14	-0.04
Vegetables-						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	142.41	136.00	149.44	4.93	9.88
21. Carrot	Kg	300.46	196.93	232.34	-22.67	17.98
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	199.30	187.12	196.39	-1.46	4.95
23. Tomatoes	Kg	206.28	163.92	150.42	-27.08	-8.23
24. Capsicum	Kg	372.15	253.81	302.70	-18.66	19.26
25. Beetroot	Kg	199.26	182.98	194.58	-2.35	6.34
26. Beans	Kg	391.29	287.79	318.08	-18.71	10.53
Fruits						
27. Banana	Kg	127.60	140.11	142.27	1.30	11.49
28. Papaw	Kg	84.54	118.04	133.41	57.81	13.02
29. Mangoes	Each	53.62	78.54	74.25	38.47	-5.46
Fresh Fish –						
30. Seer	Kg	1697.13	1680.76	1798.68	5.98	7.02
31.Talapath	Kg	1151.13	1173.26	1224.85	6.40	4.40
32.Paraw	Kg	1142.20	1104.06	1150.46	0.72	4.20
Dried Fish -						
33.Katta	Kg	1303.38	1424.09	1465.16	12.41	2.88
34. Sprats	Kg	741.86	743.10	762.75	2.81	2.64
Fuel -						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	87.71	70.00	70.00	-20.19	0.00
36 .Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	137.00	134.64	139.82	2.06	3.85
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	110.00	106.41	104.00	-5.45	-2.27
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	1676.00	1733.00	1733.00	3.40	0.00
Litro	12.5kg	1676.00	1733.00	1733.00	3.40	0.00
Laughs	12.5kg	1676.00	1733.00	1733.00	3.40	0.00

Director General
Department of Census and Statistics