

NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (NCPI)

APRIL, 2022

23, May 2022

Department of Census and Statistics
Ministry of Finance

The Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) has released the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) and Inflation rate for the month of April 2022.

The NCPI has been released monthly from October 2015 with a time lag of 21 days. The NCPI has weights based on consumer spending in 2012/13 Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES), and reflects new methods consistent with international best practices. Also, the DCS has rebased the Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI) with the base period of 2013 from January 2017, covering the urban areas of Colombo district.

To reflect international recommendations and best practices, the index weights refer to each item's share in the total consumption expenditures of all Sri Lankan households. The provincial weights refer to the consumption expenditures within the province in proportion to the expenditures in the whole country. The index weights are based on expenditure data derived from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) conducted in 2012/13. The 2012/13 HIES included all types of consumption expenditures by households, and was broadly representative of all households in the country. The year 2013 is considered as the base year for NCPI. The national consumer basket includes 407 items which represent the consumption expenditure of all households in Sri Lanka. For the compilation of NCPI, three price quotations are collected for each of the items in every district town. Prices for some items are collected weekly (e.g. fresh fish, rice, vegetables, fruits, coconut etc.), while prices for other items are collected once every two weeks (e.g. leafy vegetables, dried fish, spices, etc.), monthly (e.g. Textile, Footwear, Non-durable household goods etc.) or quarterly (e.g. Consumer durables (furniture), Building materials, Pharmaceutical items etc.). The frequency of price collection is determined by on an average how frequently price changes take place.

- ❗ The NCPI for all items for the month of April 2022 is 190.3 and it records an increase of 17.6 in index points.
- ❗ The overall rate of inflation as measured by NCPI on Year-on-Year basis is 33.8% in April 2022.
- ❗ Monthly change of NCPI recorded at 10.2% in April 2022.

Content

Month on Month (M on M) change of NCPI (Page 1 and 2)
Inflation (Page 3 and 4)

Source Publication

<http://www.statistics.gov.lk/InflationAndPrices/StaticInformation/MonthlyNCPI>

01.Month on Month (M on M) change of NCPI:

The NCPI for all items for the month of April 2022 is 190.3. An increase of 17.6 index points or 10.2 percentage compared to March 2022 for which the index was 172.7. This increase represents increase in expenditure value of Rs.5672.59in the “Market Basket”. Monthly changes of index numbers, expenditure values and percentage change of index numbers are given in the following table (Table 01).

Table 01: Monthly Changes by Main Groups of Market Basket

Main Group	Index Number			Monthly Changes of the Expenditure Value (Rs.)			Monthly changes of the index (%)		
	Apr 2021	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	Apr 2021	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	Apr 2021	Mar 2022	Apr 2022
All Items	142.2	172.7	190.3	38.48	1572.34	5672.59	0.08	2.92	10.22
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	150.8	195.2	218.8	9.22	657.52	3345.51	0.02	1.22	6.03
Non Food	135.5	154.9	167.9	29.26	914.82	2327.08	0.06	1.70	4.19
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	216.0	256.0	264.3	0.36	47.51	60.22	0.00	0.09	0.11
Clothing and Footwear	136.2	153.9	160.0	8.90	33.94	66.60	0.02	0.06	0.12
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	127.9	134.9	141.0	0.00	18.79	351.84	0.00	0.03	0.63
Furnishing ,Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	135.0	159.9	169.2	4.59	61.50	98.45	0.01	0.11	0.18
Health	163.6	186.6	204.6	0.00	44.11	234.38	0.00	0.08	0.42
Transport	125.5	161.6	191.4	8.02	570.92	932.57	0.02	1.06	1.68
Recreation and Culture	125.1	138.9	146.8	0.00	20.41	40.46	0.00	0.04	0.07
Education	143.9	150.4	176.0	0.00	0.00	231.77	0.00	0.00	0.42
Restaurants and Hotels	126.5	173.2	189.7	0.00	101.46	207.04	0.00	0.19	0.37
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	146.5	159.5	166.6	7.39	14.23	103.75	0.02	0.03	0.19
Communication	98.9	99.1	99.1	0.00	1.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Note 1: There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Monthly significant changes were noted in eleven main groups in April 2022, details on which are given in Table 02.

Contribution to Month-on-Month Changes:

Contributions to the NCPI on Month-on-Month basis (April 2022 as compared to March 2022) are given in Table 02. The month-on-month change was contributed by increases of index value of food items by 6.03% and non-food items by 4.19% respectively.

1.1.1. Contribution of Food items: 6.03%

As shown in Table 02, the increases in index values were reported for Rice (1.78%), Milk powder (0.67%), Mysore dhal (0.54%), Sugar (0.50%), Bread (0.38%),Coconut oil (0.26%), Chicken (0.22%), Wheat flour (0.20%), Dried fish (0.17%), Chilli powder (0.16%), Fresh fish (0.15%), Big onions (0.14%), Dried chilies (0.10%), Potatoes (0.07%), Curry powder (0.07%), Fresh fruits (0.07%), Limes (0.06%), Buns (0.04%) and Green gram (0.04%). However, decreases in index values were reported for Vegetables (0.20%) and eggs (0.01%).

1.1.2. Contribution of Non-food items: 4.19%

The increases in index values of non-food groups in April 2022 compared to the previous month was mainly due to the price increases in groups of items ‘Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics’ (Arrack, Beer and Bulathwita) (0.11%), ‘Clothing and Footwear’(0.12%), ‘Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels’ (Housing rent , Materials for the Maintenance and LP Gas) (0.63%), ‘Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance’ (0.18%), ‘Health’ (Fees to private medical practices and Payments to private hospitals/nursing homes room charges) (0.42%), ‘Transport’(Petrol, Diesel and Bus fare) (1.68%), ‘Recreation and Culture’ (0.07%),Education(Tuition fees) (0.42%), ‘Restaurants and Hotels’ (0.37%) and ‘Miscellaneous Goods and Services’(0.19%). Meanwhile, the price index of ‘Communication’ group remained unchanged during the month.

Table 02: Contribution to the increase in NCPI from March 2022 to April 2022 (Base 2013=100)

Sub Group/Commodity	Value change			
	Rs. cts	% Change		Net effect
		Increase	Decrease	
Food	3345.51	6.24	0.21	6.03
Rice	989.92	1.78		
Milk powder	369.70	0.67		
Mysore dhal	298.24	0.54		
Sugar	276.19	0.50		
Bread	211.12	0.38		
Coconut oil	146.02	0.26		
Chicken	124.23	0.22		
Wheat flour	112.13	0.20		
Dried fish	94.67	0.17		
<i>Sprats</i>	55.73	0.10		
Chili powder	88.83	0.16		
Fresh fish	85.06	0.15		
Big onions	79.18	0.14		
Dried chillies	58.27	0.10		
Potatoes	38.62	0.07		
Curry powder	38.07	0.07		
Fresh fruits	36.31	0.07		
<i>Apple</i>	13.50	0.02		
<i>Banana</i>	21.90	0.04		
<i>Papaw</i>	-11.17		0.02	
Limes	35.16	0.06		
Buns	24.26	0.04		
Green gram	20.34	0.04		
Vegetables	-111.02		0.20	
Eggs	-3.96		0.01	
Other food items	334.16	0.60		
Non Food	2327.08	4.19		4.19
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	60.22	0.11		
<i>Arrack</i>	25.28	0.05		
<i>Beer</i>	3.23	0.01		
<i>Bulathwita</i>	15.10	0.03		
Clothing & Footwear	66.60	0.12		
<i>Clothing</i>	61.02	0.11		
<i>Footwear</i>	5.58	0.01		
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels	351.84	0.63		
<i>Housing rent</i>	87.02	0.16		
<i>Materials for the Maintenance</i>	150.26	0.27		
<i>LP gas</i>	76.25	0.14		
<i>Firewood purchased</i>	38.31	0.07		
Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance	98.45	0.18		
Health	234.38	0.42		
<i>Purchase of medical/ pharmacy products</i>	30.26	0.05		
<i>Fees to private medical practices</i>	124.26	0.22		
<i>Consultation fees to specialists</i>	9.28	0.02		
<i>Payments to private hospitals/ nursing homes room charges</i>	57.24	0.10		
Transport	932.57	1.68		
<i>Tyres, tubes and spare parts</i>	24.64	0.04		
<i>Petrol</i>	338.87	0.61		
<i>Diesel</i>	118.08	0.21		
<i>Cost of servicing of vehicles</i>	60.99	0.11		
<i>Bus fare</i>	208.33	0.38		
<i>Taxi/three wheelers fare</i>	48.46	0.09		
<i>Transport for schooling/ preschooling</i>	65.46	0.12		
<i>Air lines fare</i>	43.27	0.08		
Recreation and Culture	40.46	0.07		
Education	231.77	0.42		
<i>Tuition fees</i>	231.77	0.42		
Restaurants and hotels	207.04	0.37		
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	103.75	0.19		
All Items	5672.59			10.22

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

2. Inflation

The NCPI is a macroeconomic indicator compiled to measure inflation which is defined as a sustained increase in the general level of prices for goods and services and it is measured as an annual percentage increase by NCPI. Inflation can be measured in two ways. One measure is the Year-on-Year base or Point- to-Point inflation (The percentage change in the current month CPI over same month CPI of last year). The other measure is Moving Average Inflation (The percentage difference between the average Price Indices of last 12 months & the average Price Indices of previous 12 months).

Table 03: Movements of the NCPI (Base: 2013=100)

Year	Month	All Item				Food				Non Food				
		Index Number	% Change Month on Month	Inflation %		Index Number	% Change Month on Month	Inflation %		Index Number	% Change Month on Month	Inflation %		
				Y on Y	12 Month Moving Avg.			Y on Y	12 Month Moving Avg.			Y on Y	12 Month Moving Avg.	
2021	April	142.2	0.1	5.5	5.3	150.8	0.1	9.7	10.1	135.5	0.1	2.2	1.5	
	May	143.6	1.0	6.1	5.4	153.3	1.7	10.3	10.0	135.9	0.3	2.5	1.7	
	June	145.7	1.5	6.1	5.4	157.3	2.6	9.8	9.7	136.5	0.4	2.9	1.9	
	July	146.6	0.6	6.8	5.4	158.5	0.8	11.0	9.6	137.2	0.5	3.2	2.0	
	August	147.1	0.3	6.7	5.5	159.4	0.6	11.1	9.4	137.4	0.1	3.0	2.2	
	September	147.5	0.3	6.2	5.5	159.6	0.1	10.0	9.2	137.9	0.4	3.0	2.3	
	October	150.6	2.1	8.3	5.7	162.6	1.9	11.7	9.3	141.2	2.4	5.4	2.7	
	November	155.3	3.1	11.1	6.2	171.5	5.5	16.9	10.0	142.6	1.0	6.2	3.0	
	December	161.0	3.7	14.0	7.0	182.1	6.2	21.5	11.2	144.5	1.3	7.6	3.5	
	2022	January	166.0	3.1	16.8	8.1	188.3	3.4	24.4	12.8	148.4	2.7	10.2	4.2
		February	167.8	1.1	17.5	9.3	190.6	1.2	24.7	14.3	149.8	0.9	11.0	4.9
		March	172.7	2.9	21.5	10.6	195.2	2.4	29.5	16.1	154.9	3.4	14.5	6.0
April		190.3	10.2	33.8	13.0	218.8	12.1	45.1	19.1	167.9	8.4	23.9	7.8	

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Note 2: Month on Month percentage change, Year on Year inflation percentage and 12 Month Moving Average inflation percentages were calculated using rounding off index numbers.

2.1. Year-on-Year Inflation

The overall rate of inflation as measured by NCPI on Year-on-Year basis is 33.8% in April 2022 and inflation calculated for March 2022 was 21.5%. (Table 03). With respect to April 2021, the reported inflation for the month of April 2022 was mainly due to the higher price levels prevailed in both food and non-food groups. Accordingly, the Year-on-Year inflation of the food group increased to 45.1% in April 2022 from 29.5% in March 2022 and the Year-on-Year inflation of the non-food group increased to 23.9% in April 2022 from 14.5% in March 2022.

Contribution to Year-on-Year inflation:

On Year-on-Year basis, contribution of food commodities to inflation was 21.07 percent in April 2022 compared to the month of April 2021 (Table 04).

Contribution of non-food items was 12.73 percent. This was mainly due to price increases in groups of items 'Transport' (4.52%), 'Restaurant and Hotels' (1.73%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' (1.65%), 'Health' (1.17%), 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance' (0.79%), 'Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.77%), 'Education' (0.64%), 'Miscellaneous goods and services' (0.64%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.57%), and 'Recreation and Culture' (0.24%). Meanwhile, very slight price increase was reported in group of 'Communication' during the period.

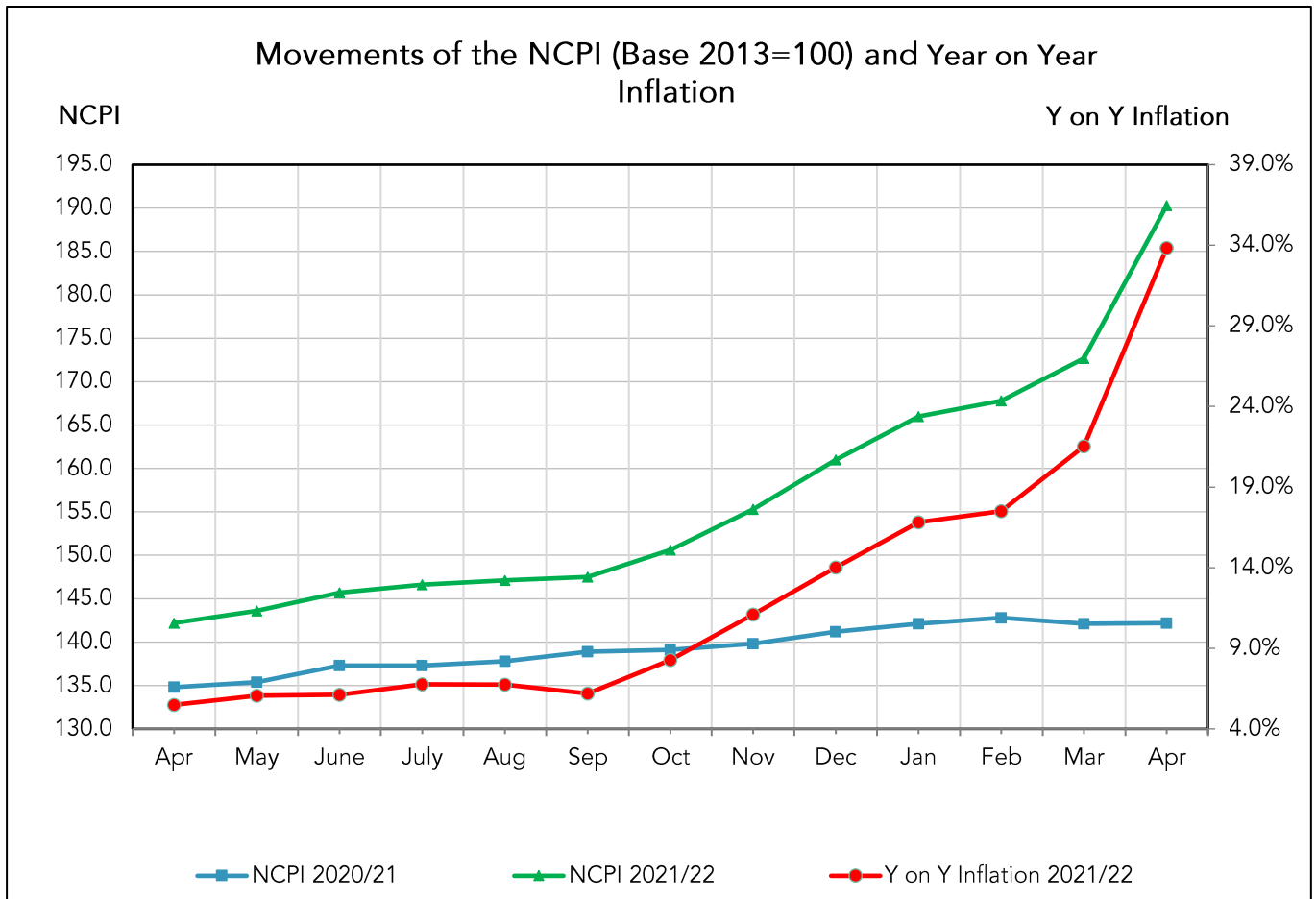
Table 04: Contribution to the increase in NCPI (Base 2013=100) on year on year basis April 2022 as compared to April 2021)

Sub Group/Commodity	Value change			Net effect %
	Rs. cts	Increase %	Decrease %	
Food	9633.45			21.07
Rice	2353.39	5.15		
Milk powder	873.23	1.91		
Vegetables	781.99	1.71		
Mysore dhal	630.34	1.38		
Fresh fish	494.17	1.08		
Sugar	473.11	1.03		
Bread	408.26	0.89		
Coconut oil	381.19	0.83		
Non Food	5821.31	12.73		12.73
Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	351.50	0.77		
Arrack	94.35	0.21		
Cigarettes	24.09	0.05		
Tobacco (chewing)	11.26	0.02		
Beedi	29.73	0.07		
Betel leaves	103.73	0.23		
Arecanuts	23.42	0.05		
Bulathwita	46.00	0.10		
Clothing and Footwear	262.40	0.57		
Clothing	223.21	0.49		
Footwear	39.20	0.09		
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels	756.23	1.65		
Housing rent	167.03	0.37		
Material for the maintenance	274.27	0.60		
LP gas	236.25	0.52		
Kerosene oil	17.03	0.04		
Firewood purchased	61.64	0.13		
Furnishings, Household equipment and Routing household maintenance	362.82	0.79		
Health	533.46	1.17		
Purchase of medical/pharmacy products	91.02	0.20		
Fees to private medical practices	236.58	0.52		
Consultation fees to specialists	27.61	0.06		
Fees to Aurvadic practitioners	38.54	0.08		
Payments to private hospitals/ nursing homes room charges	116.06	0.25		
Transport	2065.48	4.52		
Tyres, tubes and spare parts	44.71	0.10		
Petrol	852.83	1.87		
Diesel	250.47	0.55		
Lubricating oil	29.94	0.07		
Cost of servicing of vehicles	163.74	0.36		
Bus fare	446.21	0.98		
Taxi/three wheelers fare	72.65	0.16		
Transport for schooling/ preschooling	101.91	0.22		
Airline fare	95.93	0.21		
Communication	1.96	0.00		
Recreation and Culture	110.46	0.24		
Personal computers	16.25	0.04		
Exercise books and stationeries	44.93	0.10		
Education	290.53	0.64		
Tuition fees	261.33	0.57		
Restaurant and Hotels	793.15	1.73		
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	293.32	0.64		
All Items	15454.75			33.80

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

2.2 Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation for the month of April 2022 is 13.0%. The corresponding rate for the month of March 2022 was 10.6%.




Source: Department of Census and Statistics





The Vision of DCS

“To be the leader in the region in producing timely statistical information to achieve the country’s development goals.”

The Mission of DCS

“Making contribution in the socioeconomic development of the country by providing accurate timely statistics, more Effectively by means of new technology, and utilising the services of dedicated staff under a strategic leadership to become a prosperous nation in the globalised environment.”

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