



## NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (NCPI) – (Base 2021=100)

JULY, 2024

21 August 2024

Department of Census and Statistics  
Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies

The Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) has released the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) with a new index reference period and Inflation rate for the month of July 2024.

The NCPI with an index reference period 2013=100 was updated to a new index reference period of 2021= 100. The updated NCPI will be released monthly commencing from January 2023 with a time lag of 21 days covering the entire country.

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 HIES conducted in year 2019. The HIES 2019 included all types of consumption expenditures by households, and was broadly representative of all households in the country.

The national consumer basket for the updated NCPI includes 485 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, while prices for other items are collected once every two weeks, monthly or quarterly. The frequency of price collection is determined by on an average how frequently price changes take place.

- ❖ The NCPI (Base 2021 = 100) for all items for the month of July 2024 is 206.9 and it records a decrease of 1.2 in index points compared to June 2024.
- ❖ The overall rate of inflation as measured by NCPI (Base 2021=100) on Year-on-Year basis is 2.5% in July 2024.

### 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>

statistics.gov.lk

## 01. Month on Month (M on M) change of NCPI (Base 2021=100):

The NCPI for all items for the month of July 2024 is 206.9. A decrease of 1.2 index points or 0.57 percentage compared to June 2024 for which the index was 208.1. This decrease represents a decrease in expenditure value of Rs. 598.98 in 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 change of the index (%) <sup>1</sup>		
	July 2023	June 2024	July 2024	July 2023	June 2024	July 2024	July 2023	June 2024	July 2024
<b>All Items</b>	201.9	208.1	206.9	-724.5	883.87	-598.98	-0.70	0.84	-0.57
<b>Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages</b>	227.5	232.8	234.0	-176.2	1093.47	237.22	-0.17	1.04	0.22
<b>Non Food</b>	185.3	192.1	189.4	-548.3	-209.60	-836.20	-0.53	-0.20	-0.79
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	214.1	240.4	241.3	239.2	2.27	8.60	0.23	0.00	0.01
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	154.7	159.3	153.9	-1114.3	-55.63	-624.54	-1.08	-0.05	-0.59
Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	220.0	219.0	217.8	24.8	8.38	-19.28	0.02	0.01	-0.02
Health	190.2	195.0	197.8	-25.4	0.00	46.50	-0.02	0.00	0.04
Transport	218.7	233.3	229.5	86.5	-174.58	-209.58	0.08	-0.17	-0.20
Recreation and Culture	217.5	204.8	198.8	99.8	8.04	-50.92	0.10	0.01	-0.05
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	197.5	202.5	203.0	9.8	0.06	8.38	0.01	0.00	0.01
Other groups	190.1	196.7	196.7	131.15	1.86	4.64	0.13	0.00	0.00

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

*Note 1: There are 12 main groups in the market basket. Monthly significant changes were noted in eight main groups in July 2024, details of which are given in Table 02.*

*Note 2: For the July 2024, insignificant groups: 'Clothing and Footwear', 'Education' and 'Restaurants and Hotels' and unchanged group: 'Communication' are considered as the 'Other Groups'.*

*Note 3: <sup>1</sup>Monthly change of the index (%) is calculated using expenditure values.*

*Note 4: Percentage of items does not tally with overall percentage due to rounding off.*

## Contribution to Month-on-Month Changes:

Contributions to the NCPI on a Month-on-Month basis (July 2024 as compared to June 2024) are given in Table 02. The month-on-month change was contributed by increases in food items of 0.22% and decreases in non-food items of 0.79%, respectively.

### 1.1.1. Contribution of Food items: 0.22%

As shown in Table 02, the increases in index values were reported for Vegetables (0.22%), Potatoes (0.07%), Rice (0.06%), Coconut oil (0.05%), Fresh fruits (0.05%), Green chilies (0.05%), Turmeric powder (0.02%), Red onions (0.02%), Dried fish (0.02%), Eggs (0.01%) and Tea dust /leaves (0.01%). However, decreases in index values were reported for Limes (0.07%), Fresh fish (0.06%), Chicken (0.05%), Big onions (0.04%), Coconuts (0.03%), Sugar (0.03%), Bread (normal) (0.02%), Milk powder (0.01%), Green Gram (0.01%), Chili powder (0.01%), Noodles (0.01%) and Ginger (0.01%).

### 1.1.2. Contribution of Non-food items: -0.79%

The decreases in index values of non-food groups in July 2024 compared to the previous month was mainly due to the price decreases in groups of items 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' (*Electricity bill and LP Gas*) (0.59%), 'Transport' (*Petrol and Bus fare*) (0.20%), 'Recreation and Culture' (*Exercise books and stationeries*) (0.05%) and 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance' (0.02%). However, price increases in groups of items were reported for 'Health' (*Fees to private medical practices*) (0.04%), 'Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' (*Areca nuts*) (0.01%) and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.01%). Further, very slight price decrease was reported in group of 'Restaurants and Hotels'. However, very slight price increases were reported in groups of 'Clothing and Footwear' and 'Education'. Meanwhile, the price index of 'Communication' group remained unchanged during the month.

Table 02: Contribution to the decrease in NCPI from June 2024 to July 2024 (Base 2021=100)

Sub Group/Commodity	Rs. cts	Value change		
		% Change		Net effect
		Increase	Decrease	
<b>Food</b>	<b>237.22</b>	<b>0.58</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>0.22</b>
Vegetables	229.71	0.22		
Potatoes	72.63	0.07		
Rice	67.16	0.06		
Coconut oil	57.48	0.05		
Fresh fruits	53.84	0.05		
<i>banana</i>	41.09	0.04		
<i>Papaw</i>	15.43	0.01		
Green chilies	49.54	0.05		
Turmeric powder	25.68	0.02		
Red onions	20.30	0.02		
Dried fish	18.75	0.02		
<i>Sprats (dry)</i>	10.06	0.01		
Eggs	10.12	0.01		
Tea dust/ leaves	8.78	0.01		
Limes	-76.92		0.07	
Fresh fish	-66.40		0.06	
Chicken	-52.29		0.05	
Big onions	-42.02		0.04	
Coconuts	-36.03		0.03	

Sugar	-28.66	0.03		
Bread (normal)	-16.11	0.02		
Milk powder	-14.63	0.01		
Green gram	-10.15	0.01		
Chili powder	-8.87	0.01		
Noodles	-5.69	0.01		
Ginger	-5.38	0.01		
Other food items	-13.60	0.01		
<b>Non Food</b>	<b>-836.20</b>	<b>0.06</b>	<b>0.86</b>	<b>-0.79</b>
<b>Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics</b>	<b>8.60</b>	<b>0.01</b>		
<i>Areca nuts</i>	<i>6.35</i>	<i>0.01</i>		
<b>Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels</b>	<b>-624.54</b>		<b>0.59</b>	
<i>Materials for the Maintenance</i>	<i>-8.94</i>		<i>0.01</i>	
<i>Electricity bill</i>	<i>-585.76</i>		<i>0.55</i>	
<i>LP Gas</i>	<i>-29.84</i>		<i>0.03</i>	
<b>Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance</b>	<b>-19.28</b>		<b>0.02</b>	
<i>Washing soap</i>	<i>-14.01</i>		<i>0.01</i>	
<i>Washing powder</i>	<i>-13.73</i>		<i>0.01</i>	
<b>Health</b>	<b>46.50</b>	<b>0.04</b>		
<i>Fees to private medical practices</i>	<i>22.83</i>	<i>0.02</i>		
<i>Fees to Aurvadic practitioners</i>	<i>18.92</i>	<i>0.02</i>		
<b>Transport</b>	<b>-209.58</b>		<b>0.20</b>	
<i>Petrol</i>	<i>-121.97</i>		<i>0.12</i>	
<i>bus fare</i>	<i>-89.10</i>		<i>0.08</i>	
<b>Recreation and Culture</b>	<b>-50.92</b>		<b>0.05</b>	
<i>Exercise books and stationeries.</i>	<i>-51.35</i>		<i>0.05</i>	
<b>Miscellaneous Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>8.38</b>	<b>0.01</b>		
<b>Other Groups</b>	<b>4.64</b>	<b>0.00</b>		
<b>All Items</b>	<b>-598.98</b>			<b>-0.57</b>

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Note 5: Percentage of items does not tally with overall percentage due to rounding off

## 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: 2021=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.
2023	July	201.9	-0.7	4.6		227.5	-0.4	-2.5		185.3	-1.0	10.9	
	August	201.9	0.0	2.1		224.6	-1.3	-5.4		187.3	1.1	9.0	
	September	203.5	0.8	0.8		226.7	0.9	-5.2		188.5	0.6	5.9	
	October	203.6	0.0	1.0		224.1	-1.1	-5.2		190.4	1.0	6.3	
	November	206.0	1.2	2.8		228.1	1.8	-2.2		191.8	0.7	7.1	
	December	208.8	1.4	4.2	16.5	236.2	3.6	1.6	10.6	191.2	-0.3	6.3	21.6
2024	January	215.0	3.0	6.5	13.4	242.4	2.6	4.1	7.5	197.3	3.2	8.5	18.5
	February	214.5	-0.2	5.1	10.2	239.5	-1.2	5.0	4.8	198.3	0.5	5.1	14.9
	March	210.0	-2.1	2.5	7.2	234.4	-2.1	5.0	2.7	194.3	-2.0	0.7	11.1
	April	208.2	-0.9	2.7	5.2	231.1	-1.4	3.3	1.1	193.4	-0.5	2.3	8.5
	May	206.3	-0.9	1.6	3.7	227.3	-1.6	0.5	0.1	192.8	-0.3	2.4	6.7
	June	208.1	0.9	2.4	3.0	232.8	2.4	1.9	0.0	192.1	-0.4	2.7	5.5
	July	206.9	-0.6	2.5	2.9	234.0	0.5	2.9	0.5	189.4	-1.4	2.2	4.8

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Note 6: Month on Month percentage change and Year on Year inflation percentage were calculated using rounding off index numbers.

## 2.1. Year-on-Year Inflation

The overall rate of inflation as measured by the NCPI on a Year-over-Year basis was 2.5% in July 2024 and inflation calculated for the June 2024 was 2.4%. (Table 03). On a monthly basis, the Year-on-Year inflation of the food group increased to 2.9% in July 2024 from 1.9% in June 2024 and the Year-on-Year inflation of the non-food group decreased to 2.2% in July 2024 from 2.7% in June 2024.

### Contribution to Year-on-Year inflation:

On a Year-on-Year basis, contribution of food commodities to inflation was 1.26 percent in July 2024 compared to the month of July 2023 (Table 04).

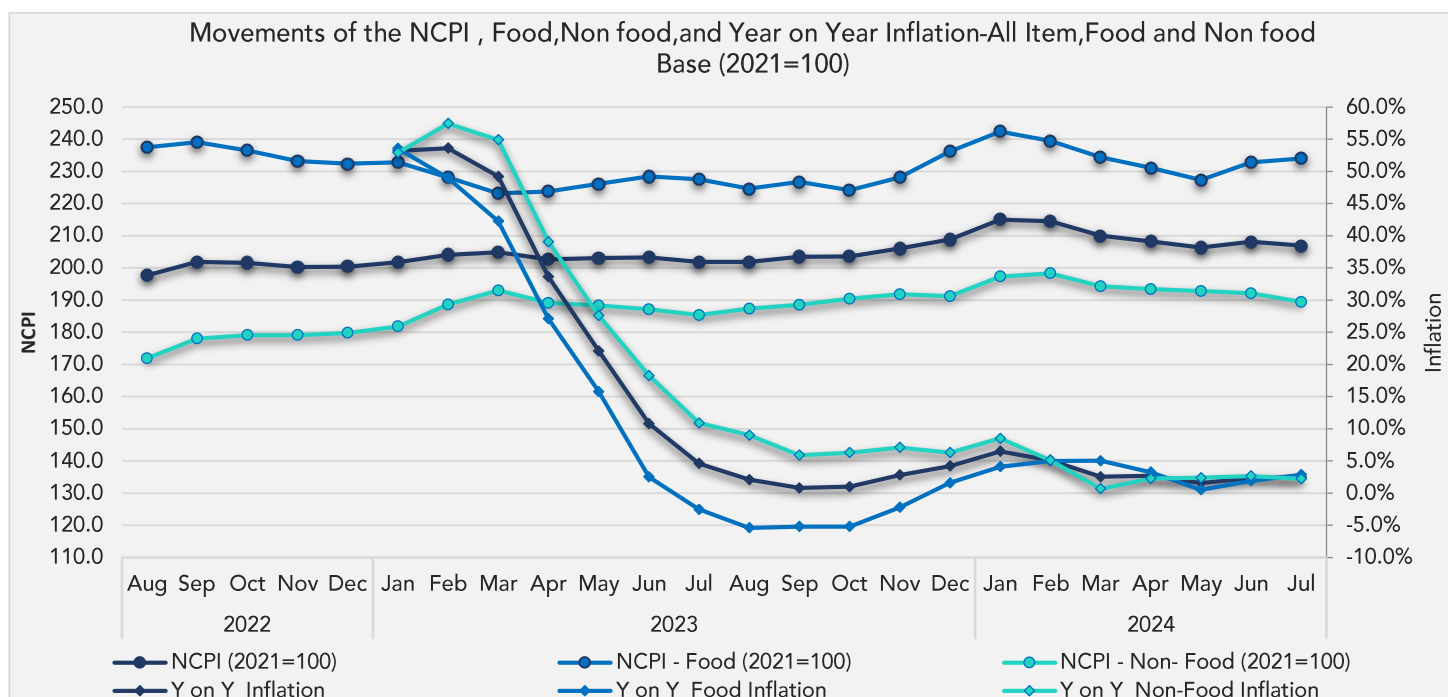
Contribution of non-food items was 1.24 percent. This was mainly due to price increases in groups of items 'Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.26%), 'Health' (0.12%), 'Transport' (0.59%), 'Communication' (0.05%), 'Education' (0.30%), 'Restaurant and Hotels' (0.19%) and 'Miscellaneous goods and services' (0.09%). However, price decreases in the groups of items were reported for 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.08%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' (0.09%), 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance' (0.03%), and 'Recreation and Culture' (0.16%) during the period.

**Table 04: Contribution to the increase in NCPI (Base 2021=100) on year on year basis July 2024 as compared to July 2023)**

Sub Group/Commodity	Rs. cts	Value change		
		% Change		Net effect %
		Increase %	Decrease %	
<b>Food</b>	<b>1285.28</b>			<b>1.26</b>
Rice	781.05	0.76		
Vegetables	612.81	0.60		
Big onions	398.79	0.39		
Limes	234.92	0.23		
Coconuts	173.03	0.17		
Sugar	153.24	0.15		
Fresh Fish	-445.52		0.44	
Chicken	-415.86		0.41	
Green chilies	-126.07		0.12	
Dried chilies	-122.14		0.12	
<b>Non Food</b>	<b>1269.19</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>1.24</b>
<b>Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics</b>	<b>261.47</b>	<b>0.26</b>		
Arrack	105.64	0.10		
Cigarettes	80.16	0.08		
<b>Clothing and Footwear</b>	<b>-85.95</b>		<b>0.08</b>	
Clothing	-74.12		0.07	
Footwear	-11.83		0.01	
<b>Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels</b>	<b>-88.07</b>		<b>0.09</b>	
Housing rent	435.56	0.43		
Maintenance	85.29	0.08		
Water bill	502.98	0.49		
Electricity bill	-1259.62		1.23	
LP gas	165.95	0.16		
Kerosene oil	-15.09		0.01	
<b>Furnishings, Household equipment and Routing household maintenance</b>	<b>-33.92</b>		<b>0.03</b>	
Washing powder	-58.36		-0.06	
<b>Health</b>	<b>126.01</b>	<b>0.12</b>		
Fees to private medical practices	79.29	0.08		
Consultation fees to specialists	24.55	0.02		
Fees to Aurvadic practitioners	18.92	0.02		
<b>Transport</b>	<b>606.14</b>	<b>0.59</b>		
Petrol	177.41	0.17		
Diesel	16.44	0.02		
Vehicle maintenance expenses (Repair charges)	184.46	0.18		
Bus fare	-40.01		0.04	
Three wheelers fare	49.12	0.05		
Transport for schooling/ preschooling	61.10	0.06		
<b>Communication</b>	<b>49.02</b>	<b>0.05</b>		
Telephone charges - mobile	25.20	0.02		
<b>Recreation and Culture</b>	<b>-158.91</b>		<b>0.16</b>	
Exercise books and stationeries	-193.28		0.19	
<b>Education</b>	<b>309.27</b>	<b>0.30</b>		
Tuition fees	211.88	0.21		
Course fees (Higher education)	42.56	0.04		
<b>Restaurant and Hotels</b>	<b>191.50</b>	<b>0.19</b>		
<b>Miscellaneous Goods and Services</b>	<b>92.62</b>	<b>0.09</b>		
Hair cutting and shaving charges	33.47	0.03		
Car Insurance	46.27	0.05		
<b>All Items</b>	<b>2554.47</b>			<b>2.49</b>

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Note 7: Percentage of items does not tally with overall percentage due to rounding off



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.”

**Department of Census & Statistics,**  
Sankyana Mandiraya  
No. 306/71, Polduwa  
Road, Battaramulla

**dgccensus@statistics.gov.lk**  
**+94 11 2147001**  
**+94 11 2147011**  
**statistics.gov.lk**

**This publication is produced by the Prices & Wages Division**  
5<sup>th</sup> floor, Department of Census and Statistics  
**prices@statistics.gov.lk**  
**+94 11- 2147414** **+94 11- 2147418**