

## NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (NCPI)

OCTOBER, 2022

21, November 2022

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) and Inflation rate for the month of October 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 October 2022 is 256.9 and it records an increase of 0.7 in index points compared to the September 2022.
- ❏ The overall rate of inflation as measured by NCPI on Year-on-Year basis is 70.6% in October 2022.
- ❏ For the October 2022, Month-on-Month change recorded as 0.3% compared to September 2022.

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

[statistics.gov.lk](http://statistics.gov.lk)

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

The NCPI for all items for the month of October 2022 is 256.9. An increase of 0.7 index points or 0.3 percentage compared to September 2022 for which the index was 256.2. This increase represents increase in expenditure value of Rs.231.26 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 changes of the index (%)		
	Oct 2021	Sep 2022	Oct 2022	Oct 2021	Sep 2022	Oct 2022	Oct 2021	Sep 2022	Oct 2022
<b>All Items</b>	150.6	256.2	256.9	1006.66	1879.94	231.26	2.12	2.34	0.28
<b>Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages</b>	162.6	296.5	294.1	421.27	303.78	-340.95	0.89	0.38	-0.41
<b>Non Food</b>	141.2	224.5	227.7	585.39	1576.17	572.22	1.23	1.96	0.69
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	223.1	333.9	345.8	6.36	74.20	87.01	0.01	0.09	0.11
Clothing and Footwear	140.3	217.2	224.0	28.70	148.65	74.30	0.06	0.18	0.09
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	131.7	178.3	177.4	194.63	520.59	-55.56	0.41	0.65	-0.07
Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	144.4	270.9	282.0	44.32	141.54	117.41	0.09	0.18	0.14
Health	176.7	243.4	253.9	69.41	130.52	136.97	0.15	0.16	0.17
Transport	130.1	278.7	271.6	17.05	70.52	-222.86	0.04	0.09	-0.27
Communication	98.9	124.4	133.3	0.00	130.25	66.14	0.00	0.16	0.08
Recreation and Culture	128.8	185.1	208.4	11.15	17.46	118.83	0.02	0.02	0.14
Education	146.1	191.2	197.4	8.15	45.86	55.49	0.02	0.06	0.07
Restaurants and Hotels	139.6	257.1	260.6	131.33	102.51	44.06	0.28	0.13	0.05
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	152.5	249.3	259.6	74.30	194.06	150.43	0.16	0.24	0.18

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

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

Note 2: Percentage of items does not tally with overall percentage due to rounding off.

### Contribution to Month-on-Month Changes:

Contributions to the NCPI on Month-on-Month basis (October 2022 as compared to September 2022) are given in Table 02. The month-on-month change was contributed by decrease of index value of food items by 0.41% and increase of index value of non-food items by 0.69% respectively.

#### 1.1.1. Contribution of Food items: - 0.41%

As shown in Table 02, the decreases in index values were reported for Fresh fish (0.25%), Rice (0.16%), Dried fish (0.09%), Coconut oil (0.09%), Sugar (0.08%), Mysore dhal (0.07%), Potatoes (0.05%), Chicken (0.05%), Biscuits (0.04%), Wheat flour (0.04%), Chili powder (0.03%) and Green chilies (0.02%). However, increases in index values were reported for Milk powder (0.11%), Big onions (0.06%), Fresh fruits (0.06%), Limes (0.05%), Tea dust/leaves (0.05%), Coconuts (0.04%), Red onions (0.03%), Bread (0.02%), Rice flour (0.02%), Vegetables (0.02%), Infant milk powder (0.02%), Green gram (0.02%) and Papadam (0.02%).

### 1.1.2. Contribution of Non-food items: 0.69%

The increases in index values of non-food groups in October 2022 compared to the previous month was mainly due to the price increases in groups of items 'Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' ( *Arrack* ) (0.11%), 'Clothing and Footwear'(0.09%), 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance'( *Washing soap* ) (0.14%), 'Health'( *Purchase of medical/ pharmacy products, Payments to private hospitals/nursing homes*) (0.17%) , 'Communication' ( *Telephone charges – mobile and home fixed phone*)(0.08%), 'Recreation and Culture' ( *Exercise books and stationeries*) (0.14%) , 'Education'( *Tuition fees*) (0.07%), 'Restaurants and Hotels' (0.05%) and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services'( *Toilet soap*) (0.18%). However, price decreases in groups of items were reported for 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' ( *Materials for the Maintenance*) (0.07%) and 'Transport' ( *Petrol and Diesel*) (0.27%).

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

Sub Group/Commodity	Rs. cts	Value change		
		% Change		
		Increase	Decrease	Net effect
<b>Food</b>	<b>-340.95</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>-0.41</b>
Fresh fish	-206.35		0.25	
Rice	-132.74		0.16	
Dried fish	-75.93		0.09	
<i>Sprats</i>	-23.60		0.03	
Coconut oil	-72.47		0.09	
Sugar	-68.78		0.08	
Mysore dhal	-56.10		0.07	
Potatoes	-43.83		0.05	
Chicken	-40.08		0.05	
Biscuits	-32.22		0.04	
Wheat flour	-31.11		0.04	
Chili powder	-25.59		0.03	
Green chilies	-12.68		0.02	
Milk powder	89.25	0.11		
Big onions	50.57	0.06		
Fresh fruits	46.71	0.06		
<i>banana</i>	47.85	0.06		
<i>Pineapple</i>	10.35	0.01		
<i>Papaw</i>	-10.25		0.01	
Limes	39.42	0.05		
Tea dust/ leaves	37.30	0.05		
Coconuts	31.70	0.04		
Red onions	27.05	0.03		
Bread	18.15	0.02		
Rice flour	15.87	0.02		
Vegetables	14.39	0.02		
Infant milk powder	13.51	0.02		
Green gram	13.07	0.02		
Papadam	12.44	0.02		
Other food items	47.50	0.06		

<b>Non Food</b>	<b>572.22</b>	<b>1.03</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.69</b>
<b>Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics</b>	87.01	0.11		
Arrack	50.88	0.06		
Toddy	8.45	0.01		
Cigarettes	24.09	0.03		
Betel leaves	-10.72		0.01	
Arecanuts	5.31	0.01		
<b>Clothing &amp; Footwear</b>	74.30	0.09		
Clothing	61.99	0.08		
Footwear	12.31	0.01		
<b>Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels</b>	-55.56		0.07	
Materials for the Maintenance	-76.67		0.09	
Electricity bills	34.99	0.04		
LP gas	-29.56		0.04	
Firewood purchasing	15.68	0.02		
<b>Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance</b>	117.41	0.14		
Washing soap	25.64	0.03		
Washing powder	15.72	0.02		
<b>Health</b>	136.97	0.17		
Purchase of medical/ pharmacy products	57.56	0.07		
Payments to private hospitals/ nursing homes	73.85	0.09		
<b>Transport</b>	-222.86		0.27	
Petrol	-293.14		0.36	
Diesel	-13.14		0.02	
Lubricating oil	6.73	0.01		
Cost of servicing of vehicles	20.72	0.03		
Airline fare	6.46	0.01		
<b>Communication</b>	66.14	0.08		
Telephone charges - Home fixed phone	14.44	0.02		
Telephone charges - mobile	49.86	0.06		
<b>Recreation and Culture</b>	118.83	0.14		
Newspapers	8.06	0.01		
Exercise books and stationeries.	108.03	0.13		
<b>Education</b>	55.49	0.07		
Tuition fees	55.49	0.07		
<b>Restaurants and hotels</b>	44.06	0.05		
<b>Miscellaneous Goods &amp; Services</b>	150.43	0.18		
Toilet soap	54.87	0.07		
<b>All Items</b>	<b>231.26</b>			<b>0.28</b>

Note 3: Percentage of items does not tally with overall percentage due to rounding off

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	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
	May	208.7	9.7	45.3	16.3	242.2	10.7	58.0	23.1	182.4	8.6	34.2	10.5
	June	231.5	10.9	58.9	20.8	276.6	14.2	75.8	28.8	196.0	7.5	43.6	13.9
	July	244.4	5.6	66.7	25.9	289.3	4.6	82.5	34.9	209.1	6.7	52.4	18.0
	August	250.4	2.5	70.2	31.3	294.3	1.7	84.6	41.2	215.8	3.2	57.1	22.6
	September	256.2	2.3	73.7	36.9	296.5	0.7	85.8	47.5	224.5	4.0	62.8	27.6
	October	256.9	0.3	70.6	42.2	294.1	-0.8	80.9	53.2	227.7	1.4	61.3	32.3

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

Note 4 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 70.6% in October 2022 and inflation calculated for the September 2022 was 73.7%. (Table 03). With respect to October 2021, the reported inflation for the month of October 2022 was mainly due to the higher price levels prevailed in both food and non-food groups. Anyway, on a monthly basis, the Year-on-Year inflation of the food group decreased to 80.9% in October 2022 from 85.8% in September 2022 and the Year-on-Year inflation of the non-food group also decreased to 61.3% in October 2022 from 62.8% in September 2022.

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

On Year-on-Year basis, contribution of food commodities to inflation was 38.45 percent in October 2022 compared to the month of October 2021 (Table 04).

Contribution of non-food items was 32.15 percent. This was mainly due to price increases in groups of items 'Transport' (9.16%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' (5.46%), 'Miscellaneous goods and services' (3.22%), 'Restaurant and Hotels' (3.14%), 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance' (3.01%), 'Health' (2.08%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (1.91%), 'Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' (1.85%), 'Education' (0.96%), 'Recreation and Culture' (0.84%) and 'Communication' (0.53%) during the period.

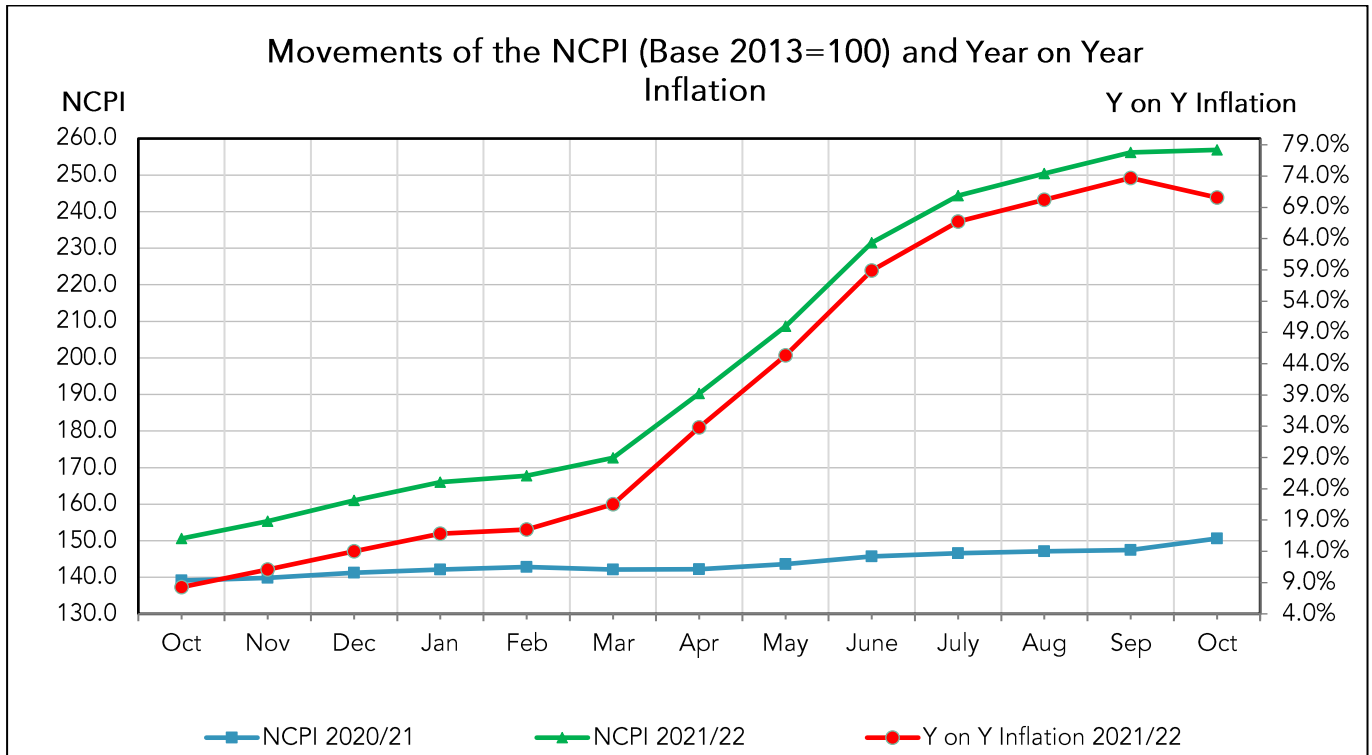
Table 04: Contribution to the increase in NCPI (Base 2013=100) on year on year basis October 2022 as compared to October 2021)

Sub Group/Commodity	Value change		
	Rs. cts	% Change	Net effect %
<b>Food</b>	<b>18614.22</b>	<b>38.45</b>	<b>38.45</b>
Rice	3285.46	6.79	
Milk powder	1974.07	4.08	
Vegetables	1598.74	3.30	
Fresh fish	1338.24	2.76	
Bread	889.31	1.84	
Chicken	807.48	1.67	
Dried fish	718.35	1.48	
<b>Non Food</b>	<b>15563.44</b>	<b>32.15</b>	<b>32.15</b>
<b>Alcoholic beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics</b>	<b>894.30</b>	<b>1.85</b>	
Arrack	369.24	0.76	
Toddy	25.07	0.05	
Beer	24.60	0.05	
Cigarettes	96.37	0.20	
Beedi	76.10	0.16	
Betel leaves	150.46	0.31	
Arecanuts	34.05	0.07	
Bulathwita	98.22	0.20	
<b>Clothing and Footwear</b>	<b>924.46</b>	<b>1.91</b>	
Clothing	694.78	1.44	
Footwear	229.68	0.47	
<b>Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels</b>	<b>2642.10</b>	<b>5.46</b>	
Materials for the maintenance	922.55	1.91	
Water	98.54	0.20	
Electricity	765.15	1.58	
LP gas	258.80	0.53	
Kerosene oil	263.51	0.54	
Firewood purchasing	208.62	0.43	
<b>Furnishings, Household equipment and Routing household maintenance</b>	<b>1456.81</b>	<b>3.01</b>	
Washing soap	531.46	1.10	
Washing powder	184.83	0.38	
<b>Health</b>	<b>1005.28</b>	<b>2.08</b>	
Purchase of medical/pharmacy products	332.42	0.69	
Fees to private medical practices	405.01	0.84	
Consultation fees to specialists	38.08	0.08	
Payments to private hospitals/ nursing homes room charges	171.74	0.35	
<b>Transport</b>	<b>4436.43</b>	<b>9.16</b>	
Tyres, tubes and spare parts	227.41	0.47	
Petrol	1215.58	2.51	
Diesel	604.24	1.25	
Lubricating oil	66.20	0.14	
Cost of servicing of vehicles	309.71	0.64	
Bus fare	1158.14	2.39	
Taxi/Three wheelers fare	245.22	0.51	
Transport for schooling/ pre-schooling	313.56	0.65	
Airline fare	184.33	0.38	
<b>Communication</b>	<b>256.69</b>	<b>0.53</b>	
Telephone charges - Home fixed phone	77.09	0.16	
Telephone charges - mobile	163.30	0.34	
Email/internet charges	9.52	0.02	
<b>Recreation and Culture</b>	<b>405.74</b>	<b>0.84</b>	
Cable/ Satellite TV charges	9.11	0.02	
News papers	49.33	0.10	
Exercise books and stationeries	233.01	0.48	
<b>Education</b>	<b>463.18</b>	<b>0.96</b>	
Tuition fees	400.12	0.83	
School fees (International)	38.51	0.08	
<b>Restaurant and Hotels</b>	<b>1518.78</b>	<b>3.14</b>	
<b>Miscellaneous Goods and Services</b>	<b>1559.67</b>	<b>3.22</b>	
Toilet soap	829.65	1.71	
Car Insurance	200.17	0.41	
<b>All Items</b>	<b>34177.66</b>		<b>70.60</b>

Source: Department of Census and Statistics

## 2.2 Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation for the month of October 2022 is 42.2%. The corresponding rate for the month of September 2022 was 36.9%.



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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