



Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI)-(BASE 2013=100)

May, 2021

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Department of Census and Statistics
Ministry of Finance

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, Kotte, Nugegoda, Kolonnawa, Rathmalana, 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.

- The CCPI for all items for the month of May 2021 was 140.3 and it records an increase of 1.5 in index points**
- The overall rate of inflation as measured by CCPI on Y on Y basis is 4.5% in May 2021**

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Source Publication

[For more details on the revision of base year, please click here: Technical Note on Base Year Revision](#)

1. Variations in Colombo Consumer Price Index

Month on month changes in the Colombo Consumer Price Index is briefly described below.

Table 1- Monthly Changes by main Groups of Market Basket

Major Group*	Monthly Changes of the						Monthly Changes		
	Index Number			Expenditure Values(Rs.)			of the Index (%)		
	May	Apr	May	May	Apr	May	May	Apr	May
	2020	2021	2021	2020	2021	2021	2020	2021	2021
All Items	134.2	138.8	140.3	360.22	-29.75	881.26	0.45	-0.04	1.05
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	144.1	155.0	158.4	322.35	-41.52	578.22	0.40	-0.05	0.69
Non Food	130.3	132.5	133.2	37.87	11.77	303.04	0.05	0.01	0.36
Clothing and Foot Wear	151.1	159.8	161.4	0.00	0.13	22.43	0.00	0.00	0.03
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	117.8	118.1	118.7	0.00	0.00	117.91	0.00	0.00	0.14
Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	135.2	138.9	139.5	1.26	3.00	10.63	0.00	0.00	0.01
Health	175.0	175.9	181.7	0.00	0.00	155.70	0.00	0.00	0.19
Other	135.1	138.8	138.7	36.60	8.64	-3.63	0.05	0.01	0.00

*Note: There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in May 2021 were noted in five main groups, details on which are given in Table 2. *Percentages of items do not tally with overall percentage due to rounding off.

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

The CCPI for all items for the month of May 2021 was 140.3 and it records an increase of 1.5 in index points that is 1.05 percentage compared to the month of April 2021 for which the index was 138.8. This represents an increase of expenditure value by Rs 881.26 in the "Market Basket".

1.1.1 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the change in CCPI from April 2021 to May 2021 were given in Table 2. The month on month change was contributed by increase of Food items by 0.69% and an increase of Non Food items by 0.36%.

1.1.2 Contribution of Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages items: 0.69%

As shown in Table 02, increases in value change were reported for Sea Fish (0.45%), Coconut Oil (0.19%), Rice (0.17%), Dhal Mysoor (0.05%), Coconuts (0.04%), Potatoes (0.04%), Green Gram(0.03%), Gram (0.01%), Cowpea (0.01%), Dried Fish (0.01%), Canned Fish (0.01%), Big Onions (0.01%), Sugar (0.01%) and Lime (0.01%).

While decreases in value change were reported for Fresh Fruits (0.20%), Vegetables (0.11%), Green Chillies (0.02%), Chicken (0.01%), Eggs (0.01%), Red Onions (0.01%) and Tamarind (0.01%).

1.1.3 Contribution of Non Food items: 0.36%

Among Non-Food groups, increases in value change was reported for the groups of 'Health' Payments to private hospitals/nursing homes room charges and Payments. to medical laboratories) (0.19%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (LP gas and Materials for the Maintenance) (0.14%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.03%) and 'Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' (0.01%).

However, an insignificant value changes were reported for the group of 'Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic'. Meanwhile, the price indices of 'Transport', 'Communication', 'Recreation and Culture', 'Education', 'Restaurants and Hotels' and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' groups remained unchanged during the period.

Table 2: Contribution to the change in CCPI from May 2021 to April 2021 (Base 2013=100)

Sub Group/Commodity	Value Change			
	Rs.Cts.	% change		Net effect
		Increase	Decrease	
Food	578.22	1.06	0.37	0.69
1 Rice	139.24	0.17		
<i>Rice - (Kekulu white)</i>	29.42	0.04		
<i>Rice - (Kekulu - red)</i>	13.06	0.02		
<i>Rice - (Samba)</i>	68.88	0.08		
<i>Rice - (Nadu-White)</i>	24.12	0.03		
2 Green gram	28.31	0.03		
3 Gram	8.55	0.01		
4 Cowpea	5.74	0.01		
5 Chicken	-11.82		0.01	
6 Sea Fish	375.23	0.45		
7 Dried Fish	8.20	0.01		
<i>Sprats (dry)</i>	4.80	0.01		
8 Canned fish	7.13	0.01		
9 Eggs	-4.38		0.01	
10 Coconuts	37.36	0.04		
11 Coconut oil	158.00	0.19		
12 Fresh Fruits	-165.89		0.20	
<i>Banana</i>	-60.01		0.07	
<i>Papaw</i>	-81.09		0.10	
<i>Mangoes</i>	-21.10		0.03	
13 Vegetables	-94.63		0.11	
14 Potatoes	33.09	0.04		
15 Dhal Mysoor	43.52	0.05		
16 Red onions	-7.43		0.01	
17 Big onions	6.05	0.01		
18 Green chillies	-20.15		0.02	
19 Sugar	9.08	0.01		
20 Limes	7.81	0.01		
21 Tamarind	-7.10		0.01	
22 Others	22.33	0.03		
Non Food	303.04	0.37	0.00	0.36
23 Clothing and Foot Wear	22.43	0.03		
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other				
24 Fuels	117.91	0.14		
<i>Materials for the Maintenance</i>	38.84	0.05		
<i>L. P. Gas</i>	79.07	0.09		
25 Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	10.63	0.01		
26 Health	155.70	0.19		
<i>Payments. to medical laboratories</i>	55.67	0.07		
<i>Payments to private hospitals/nursing homes room charges</i>	100.03	0.12		
27 Others	-3.63		0.00	
All Items	881.26	1.42	0.37	1.05

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

2. 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 03: Movements of the CCPI (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.	
2020	May	134.2	0.4	4.0	4.7	144.1	1.3	9.9	6.3	130.3	0.1	1.6	4.1	
	June	135.3	0.8	3.9	4.7	147.9	2.6	10.0	7.2	130.4	0.1	1.4	3.7	
	July	135.4	0.1	4.2	4.8	148.0	0.1	10.9	8.4	130.5	0.1	1.5	3.3	
	August	135.4	0.0	4.1	4.8	148.4	0.3	12.3	9.7	130.3	-0.2	0.8	2.9	
	September	136.3	0.7	4.0	4.7	150.8	1.6	11.5	10.4	130.6	0.2	0.9	2.5	
	October	136.5	0.1	4.0	4.6	151.2	0.3	10.0	10.7	130.6	0.0	1.3	2.2	
	November	137.1	0.4	4.1	4.6	153.0	1.2	10.3	11.2	130.9	0.2	1.6	2.0	
	December	138.0	0.7	4.2	4.6	155.1	1.4	9.2	11.4	131.3	0.3	2.0	1.8	
	2021	January	138.7	0.5	3.0	4.3	156.5	0.9	6.8	10.9	131.7	0.3	1.4	1.7
		February	139.1	0.3	3.3	4.1	157.7	0.8	7.9	10.3	131.8	0.1	1.3	1.5
		March	138.9	-0.1	4.1	4.0	155.2	-1.6	9.6	10.1	132.5	0.5	1.8	1.5
		April	138.8	-0.1	3.9	3.9	155.0	-0.1	9.0	9.7	132.5	0.0	1.8	1.4
May		140.3	1.1	4.5	3.9	158.4	2.2	9.9	9.7	133.2	0.5	2.2	1.5	

Note: Year on Year inflation, 12 Month Moving Average inflation and Month on Month change were calculated using the rounding off index numbers

2.1 Year on Year (Year on Year) Inflation

The overall rate of inflation as measured by CCPI on Y on Y basis is 4.5% in May 2021 and Yon Y inflation calculate for the month of April 2021 was 3.9% (Table 3). The Year on Year inflation of Food Group has increased from 9.0% in April 2021 to 9.9% in May 2021. While that Year on Year inflation of Non Food Group has increased from 1.8% in April 2021 to 2.2% in May 2021.

2.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

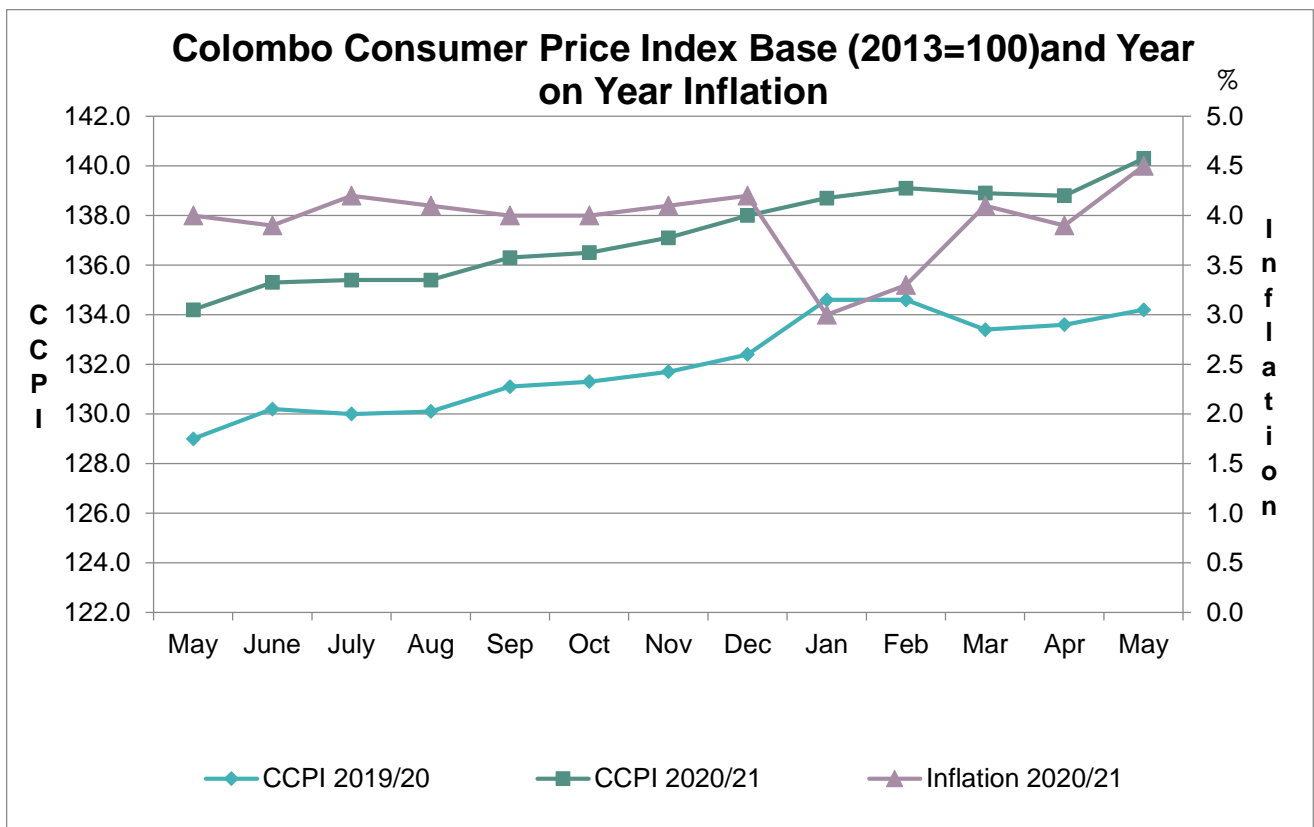
For the month of May 2021, on Year-to-Year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was 3.00%.

The contribution of Non Food items was 1.52%. This was mainly due to increases in value change in groups of 'Transport' (0.43%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (0.30%), 'Health' (0.22%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (0.21%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.18%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.07%), 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.06%) and 'Furnishing Household Equipment and routine Household Maintenance' (0.08%).

Decreases in value change were reported for the groups of Education' (0.01%) and 'Recreation and Culture' (0.01%) and the group of 'Communication' remained unchanged during the period.

2.3 Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of May 2021 is 3.9%. The corresponding rate for the month of April 2021 was also 3.9%.



Information Note on Implications of second wave of COVID-19 on the Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI): May 2021

To keep the higher accuracy of the Consumer Price Index, the majority of price data are collected by personal visits by the DCS price collecting officers. The data collection by personal visit for the Colombo district was challenging due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation. In the Colombo urban areas, for the reference month: price data of outlets that were previously collected by personal visits were collected using phone by the DCS price collecting officers from outlets which were open.

In particular, the collection of prices has become increasingly difficult. Issues and challenges include increased numbers of missing items in sampled outlets, the temporary closure of retail outlets etc.


When facing numbers of missing prices, it is important to mention that all temporarily missing prices were imputed using the methods described in Consumer Price Index Manual.

Table 4 : Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index May 2020, April & May 2021

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2020 May	2021 April	2021 May	May 21/ May 20	May 21 / Apr 21
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	101.26	100.43	102.42	1.14	1.98
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	100.61	102.85	109.16	8.50	6.14
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	99.41	107.49	113.66	14.33	5.74
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	100.69	114.49	118.41	17.61	3.43
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	101.79	116.64	122.24	20.09	4.80
6. Cowpea	Kg	286.95	677.32	735.09	156.18	8.53
7.Green Grams	Kg	296.40	805.04	941.12	217.52	16.90
8. Coconut	Each	77.85	82.58	84.03	7.94	1.75
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	373.76	409.53	533.64	42.78	30.31
10.Chicken	Kg	481.86	562.74	557.23	15.64	-0.98
11. Eggs	Each	13.78	16.08	15.74	14.29	-2.11
12. Red Onion	Kg	380.64	412.38	400.00	5.09	-3.00
13. Big Onion	Kg	104.67	104.99	107.29	2.50	2.19
14. Potatoes	Kg	176.26	148.87	162.46	-7.83	9.13
15. Garlic	Kg	523.51	410.65	421.29	-19.53	2.59
16. Dried Chilies	Kg	599.03	613.66	621.37	3.73	1.26
17. Green Chilies	Kg	313.12	386.29	310.61	-0.80	-19.59
18. Sugar	Kg	126.14	114.78	117.19	-7.09	2.10
19. Pepper	Kg	1551.99	1286.35	1292.76	-16.70	0.50
Vegetables-						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	112.49	134.64	134.75	19.79	0.08
21. Carrot	Kg	206.33	208.14	208.28	0.95	0.07
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	132.19	167.89	169.97	28.58	1.24
23. Tomatoes	Kg	108.02	197.77	161.17	49.21	-18.50
24. Capsicum	Kg	184.50	362.90	315.03	70.74	-13.19
25. Beetroot	Kg	113.04	173.47	158.64	40.34	-8.55
26. Beans	Kg	184.71	271.27	266.26	44.15	-1.84
Fruits						
27. Banana	Kg	149.94	166.21	155.14	3.47	-6.66
28. Papaw	Kg	124.46	174.35	136.03	9.30	-21.98
29. Mangoes	Each	77.07	137.87	95.95	24.49	-30.41
Fresh Fish –						
30. Seer	Kg	1785.19	1683.43	1852.82	3.79	10.06
31.Talapath	Kg	1149.37	1289.98	1366.83	18.92	5.96
32.Paraw	Kg	1209.55	1218.64	1323.04	9.38	8.57
Dried Fish -						
33.Katta	Kg	1575.63	1600.85	1601.65	1.65	0.05
34. Sprats	Kg	800.79	709.63	719.21	-10.19	1.35
Fuel -						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
36 .Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	137.45	137.00	137.00	-0.32	0.00
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	104.00	104.00	104.00	0.00	0.00
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	1493.00	1493.00	1636.27	9.60	9.60
Litro	12.5kg	1493.00	1493.00	1684.03	12.80	12.80
Laughs	12.5kg	1493.00	1493.00	1493.00	0.00	0.00

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