



Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI)-(BASE 2021=100)

March 2023

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Department of Census and Statistics

Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National policies

The Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) is the authorized agency to compile Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI). Following internationally accepted guidelines, it has been arranged to revise the base year from 2013=100 to 2021=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 2021=100) will be released monthly commencing from February 2023 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. The price collection of the index (Base 2021=100) has covered 10 price collection centers in Peliyagoda, Maradana, Wellawatta, Dematagoda Grandpass, Kirulapone, Nugegoda, Rathmalana, and two Dedicated Economic Centers namely Narahenpita and Rathmalana.

Prices are collected weekly from the outlets located within each of the above market areas including Sathosa and a supermarket. The consumer basket includes 426 items, which represent the typical urban household consumption expenditure. The CPI weights are derived from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) 2019.

- ▮ The CCPI for all items for the month of March 2023 was 195.0 and it recorded an increase of 5.5 in index points
- ▮ The overall rate of inflation as measured by CCPI on Y-on-Y basis is 50.3% in March 2023

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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*	Index Number			Monthly Changes of the Expenditure Values (Rs.)			Monthly Changes of the Index (%)		
	Mar.	Feb.	Mar.	Mar.	Feb.	Mar.	Mar.	Feb.	Mar.
	2022	2023	2023	2022	2023	2023	2022	2023	2023
All Items	129.7	189.5	195.0	3536.62	807.80	5086.06	3.06	0.47	2.92
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	155.2	234.7	229.0	756.89	-1278.93	-1371.07	0.65	-0.74	-0.79
Non Food	120.6	173.4	183.0	2779.73	2086.73	6457.13	2.40	1.20	3.71
Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	131.4	182.8	181.7	78.61	60.25	-16.68	0.07	0.03	-0.01
Clothing and Footwear	137.8	235.1	239.3	166.61	194.05	85.43	0.14	0.11	0.05
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	111.0	137.1	158.0	203.88	1341.07	6078.09	0.18	0.77	3.49
Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	125.5	187.9	187.0	135.19	9.32	-28.44	0.12	0.01	-0.02
Health	121.9	172.1	174.4	121.71	19.44	83.42	0.11	0.01	0.05
Transport	141.5	241.7	244.4	1851.15	408.36	315.67	1.60	0.24	0.18
Restaurant and Hotels	142.1	235.3	234.3	140.68	0.00	-48.65	0.12	0.00	-0.03
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	118.1	184.0	183.5	58.43	-52.39	-16.74	0.05	-0.03	-0.01
Other	106.9	148.0	148.0	23.46	106.63	5.04	0.02	0.06	0.00

**Note : There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in March 2023 were noted in nine 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 March 2023 was 195.0 and it records an increase of 5.5 in index points that is 2.92 percentage compared to the month of February 2023 for which the index was 189.5. This represents an increase of expenditure value by Rs 5086.06 in the "Market Basket".

1.1.1 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the change in CCPI from February 2023 to March 2023 were given in Table 2. The month-on-month change was contributed by a decrease in Food items of 0.79% and an increase in Non-Food items of 3.71%.

1.1.2 Contribution of Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages items: -0.79%

As shown in Table 02, decreases in value change were reported for Sea fish (0.33%), Vegetables (0.20%), Bread Normal (0.09%), Chicken (0.07%), Rice (0.06%), Big onions (0.06%), Red Onions (0.05%), Dried chillies (0.05%), Chili powder (0.04%), Dhal Mysoor (0.03%), Dried fish (0.02%), Potatoes (0.02%), Cowpea (0.01%), Buns (0.01%), Noodles (0.01%), Canned fish (0.01%), Cashew nuts & ground nuts (0.01%) and Turmeric Powder (0.01%).

While increases in value change were reported for Fresh fruits (0.12%), Coconuts (0.05%), Egg (0.04%), Green gram (0.02%), Ginger (0.02%), Milk packets (0.01%), Coconut oil (0.01%) and Green chillies (0.01%).

1.1.3 Contribution of Non-Food items: 3.71%

Among Non-Food groups, increases in value change were reported for the groups of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (*Electricity bill*) (3.49%), 'Transport' (*Petrol*) (0.18%), 'Health' (0.05%) and 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.05%). While decreases in value change were reported for the groups of 'Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic' (0.01%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.01%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' (0.02%) and 'Restaurant and Hotels' (0.03%).

However, an insignificant value change was reported for the group of 'Recreation and Culture' and the index of 'Communication' and 'Education' groups remained unchanged during the month.

Table 2: Contribution to the change in CCPI from February 2023 to March 2023 (Base2021=100)

	Rs.Cts.	Value Change		Net effect
		Increase	Decrease	
Food	-1371.07	0.28	1.07	-0.79
1 Rice	-108.07		0.06	
<i>Rice - (Kekulu white)</i>	-16.93		0.01	
<i>Rice - (Kekulu - red)</i>	-71.52		0.04	
<i>Rice - (Nadu-White)</i>	-16.55		0.01	
2 Green gram	42.96	0.02		
3 Cowpea	-23.11		0.01	
4 Bread (normal)	-154.18		0.09	
5 Buns	-22.11		0.01	
6 Noodles	-14.79		0.01	
7 Chicken	-120.77		0.07	
8 Sea Fish	-572.22		0.33	
9 Dried Fish	-33.93		0.02	
<i>Sprats (dry)</i>	-20.07		0.01	
10 Canned fish	-9.95		0.01	
11 Milk packets	10.86	0.01		
12 Eggs	73.66	0.04		
13 Coconuts	87.02	0.05		
14 Coconut oil	21.82	0.01		
15 Cashew nuts & Groundnuts	-9.01		0.01	
16 Fresh Fruits	201.54	0.12		
<i>Papaw</i>	95.46	0.05		
<i>Mangoes</i>	34.11	0.02		
17 Vegetables	-348.60		0.20	
18 Potatoes	-28.10		0.02	
19 Dhal Mysoor	-51.59		0.03	
20 Red onions	-79.72		0.05	
21 Big onions	-108.98		0.06	
22 Green chilies	21.55	0.01		
23 Chili powder	-70.93		0.04	
24 Dried chilies	-87.33		0.05	

25	Turmeric powder	-17.76		0.01	
26	Ginger	26.16	0.02		
27	Others	4.53	0.00		
Non Food		6457.13	3.77	0.06	3.71
28	Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	-16.68		0.01	
	<i>Beetle leaves</i>	-11.33		0.01	
29	Clothing and Footwear	85.43	0.05		
30	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	6078.09	3.49		
	<i>Maintenance/ Reconstruction</i>	-106.46		0.06	
	<i>Electricity bill</i>	6133.31	3.52		
	<i>L. P. Gas</i>	100.30	0.06		
	<i>Kerosene oil</i>	-49.05		0.03	
31	Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	-28.44		0.02	
	<i>Washing soap</i>	-38.67		0.02	
	<i>Brooms</i>	-12.96		0.01	
	<i>Wages to drivers</i>	18.48	0.01		
32	Health	83.42	0.05		
	<i>Fees to private medical practices</i>	72.89	0.04		
	<i>Payments to private hospitals</i>	10.53	0.01		
33	Transport	315.67	0.18		
	<i>Petrol</i>	244.54	0.14		
	<i>Lubricating oil</i>	16.58	0.01		
34	Restaurant and Hotels	-48.65		0.03	
35	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	-16.74		0.01	
	<i>Hair cutting and shaving charges</i>	12.80	0.01		
	<i>Toilet soap</i>	-58.76		0.03	
	<i>Tooth brushes</i>	14.43	0.01		
	<i>Perfumes</i>	14.24	0.01		
36	Others	5.04	0.00		
All Items		5086.06	4.05	1.13	2.92

*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: 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.
2022	February	125.8	1.2			152.0	1.3			116.5	1.1		
	March	129.7	3.1			155.2	2.1			120.6	3.5		
	April	142.1	9.6			175.2	12.9			130.3	8.0		
	May	153.6	8.1			191.6	9.4			140.1	7.5		
	June	171.7	11.8			226.4	18.2			152.2	8.6		
	July	178.9	4.2			239.2	5.7			157.4	3.4		
	August	182.8	2.2			244.6	2.3			160.9	2.2		
	September	189.3	3.6			246.9	0.9			168.8	4.9		
	October	188.5	-0.4			242.2	-1.9			169.5	0.4		
	November	187.1	-0.7			238.9	-1.4			168.7	-0.5		
	December	187.6	0.3			238.2	-0.3			169.6	0.5		
	2023	January	188.6	0.5	51.7		240.0	0.8	60.0		170.4	0.5	47.9
February		189.5	0.5	50.6		234.7	-2.2	54.4		173.4	1.8	48.8	
March		195.0	2.9	50.3		229.0	-2.4	47.6		183.0	5.5	51.7	

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 (Y-on-Y) Inflation

The overall rate of inflation as measured by CCPI on Y-on-Y basis is 50.3% in March 2023 and Y-on-Y inflation calculated for the month of February 2023 was 50.6% (Table 3). The Y-on-Y inflation of Food Group decreased to 47.6% in March 2023 from 54.4% in February 2023 and the Y-on-Y inflation of Non Food Group increased to 51.7% in March 2023 from 48.8% in February 2023.

2.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of March 2023, on Y-on-Y basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was 14.93%.

The contribution of Non Food items was 35.46%. This was mainly due to increases in value change in groups of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels', (11.44%), 'Transport' (9.96%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (3.64%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (1.72%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment and routine Household Maintenance' (1.65%), 'Health' (1.62%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (1.61%), 'Education' (1.55%), 'Recreation and Culture' (0.93%), 'Communication' (0.69%) and 'Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic' (0.65%).

**Table :05 Contribution to the increase in CCPI from March 2022 March 2023
(Base 2021=100)**

Sub Group/Commodity	Value	Increase	Decrease	Net
	Change			
	Rs.Cts.	%	%	%
Food and Non Alcoholic beverages	17788.86	14.93		14.93
<i>Rice</i>	<i>1377.27</i>	<i>1.16</i>		
<i>Bread</i>	<i>1002.92</i>	<i>0.84</i>		
<i>Chicken</i>	<i>1029.83</i>	<i>0.86</i>		
<i>Sea Fish</i>	<i>1356.83</i>	<i>1.14</i>		
<i>Milk powder</i>	<i>3153.44</i>	<i>2.65</i>		
<i>Fresh fruits</i>	<i>1272.78</i>	<i>1.07</i>		
Non Food	42247.62	35.46		35.46
Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	773.23	0.65		
<i>Arrack</i>	<i>333.21</i>	<i>0.28</i>		
<i>Whiskey</i>	<i>168.73</i>	<i>0.14</i>		
<i>Beer</i>	<i>92.87</i>	<i>0.08</i>		
<i>Cigarettes</i>	<i>217.30</i>	<i>0.18</i>		
<i>Beetle leaves</i>	<i>-83.12</i>	<i>-0.07</i>		
<i>Areca nuts</i>	<i>24.14</i>	<i>0.02</i>		
<i>Bulathwita</i>	<i>20.09</i>	<i>0.02</i>		
Clothing and Footwear	2048.82	1.72		
<i>Clothing</i>	<i>1621.13</i>	<i>1.36</i>		
<i>Footwear</i>	<i>427.68</i>	<i>0.36</i>		
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other				
Fuels	13636.52	11.44		
<i>Housing rent</i>	<i>246.53</i>	<i>0.21</i>		
<i>Maintenance/ Reconstruction</i>	<i>799.47</i>	<i>0.67</i>		
<i>Water bill</i>	<i>695.33</i>	<i>0.58</i>		
<i>Electricity bill</i>	<i>10192.10</i>	<i>8.55</i>		
<i>L. P. Gas</i>	<i>1358.53</i>	<i>1.14</i>		
<i>Kerosene oil</i>	<i>301.52</i>	<i>0.25</i>		
<i>Fire wood purchased</i>	<i>43.05</i>	<i>0.04</i>		
Furnishing Household Equipment and				
Routine Household Maintenance	1964.78	1.65		
<i>Energy saving bulbs</i>	<i>141.01</i>	<i>0.12</i>		
<i>Washing soap</i>	<i>303.54</i>	<i>0.25</i>		
<i>Washing powder</i>	<i>299.98</i>	<i>0.25</i>		
<i>Detergents/ Disinfectants</i>	<i>115.91</i>	<i>0.10</i>		
Health	1926.11	1.62		
<i>Purchase of medical/ pharmacy products</i>	<i>909.87</i>	<i>0.76</i>		
<i>spectacles</i>	<i>455.19</i>	<i>0.38</i>		
<i>family doctor fee</i>	<i>385.03</i>	<i>0.32</i>		
<i>Consultation fees to specialists</i>	<i>107.37</i>	<i>0.09</i>		
<i>Payments. to medical laboratories</i>	<i>-19.97</i>	<i>-0.02</i>		
<i>Scan (US,CT)</i>	<i>22.25</i>	<i>0.02</i>		
<i>Payments to private hospitals</i>	<i>66.35</i>	<i>0.06</i>		
Transport	11864.89	9.96		
<i>Petrol</i>	<i>4292.05</i>	<i>3.60</i>		
<i>Diesel</i>	<i>760.95</i>	<i>0.64</i>		
<i>Lubricating oil</i>	<i>138.50</i>	<i>0.12</i>		
<i>Cost of servicing of vehicles</i>	<i>470.52</i>	<i>0.39</i>		
<i>License fees</i>	<i>25.98</i>	<i>0.02</i>		
<i>Train fare</i>	<i>87.62</i>	<i>0.07</i>		
<i>bus fare</i>	<i>1130.11</i>	<i>0.95</i>		
<i>Van fare</i>	<i>87.72</i>	<i>0.07</i>		

Taxi fare	104.27	0.09	
three-wheeler fare	443.84	0.37	
Transport for schooling	781.48	0.66	
Air lines	75.09	0.06	
Communication	823.08	0.69	
Telephone charges - Home fixed phone	199.73	0.17	
Telephone charges - mobile	493.27	0.41	
Email/internet charges	111.48	0.09	
Recreation and Culture	1110.63	0.93	
Books	222.05	0.19	
News papers	84.23	0.07	
Exercise books and stationeries.	351.06	0.29	
Education	1850.04	1.55	
School fees (International)	229.74	0.19	
Tuition fees	1233.49	1.04	
Course fees (Higher education)	309.96	0.26	
Course fees vocational training	7.69	0.01	
Restaurant and hotels	4334.74	3.64	
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	1914.80	1.61	
Hair cutting and shaving charges	123.64	0.10	
Toilet soap	616.97	0.52	
Tooth paste	133.00	0.11	
Perfumes	195.19	0.16	
All Items	60036.48	50.38	50.38

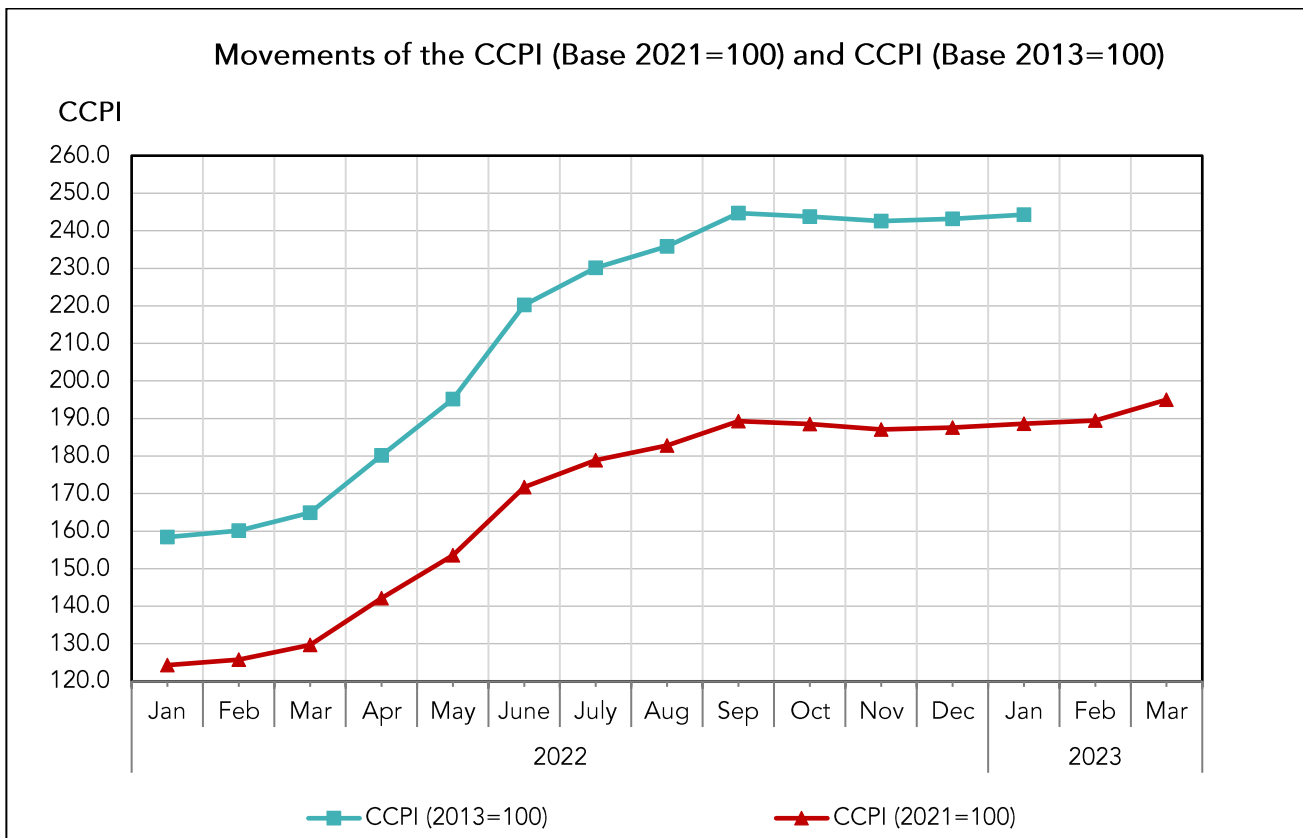


Table 4: Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index March 2022, February & March 2023


Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2022 Mar.	2023 Feb.	2023 Mar.	Mar. 22/ Mar. 21	Mar. 22 / Feb. 22
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	161.59	203.95	193.24	19.59	-5.25
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	147.70	194.22	191.76	29.83	-1.27
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	148.87	203.91	200.36	34.58	-1.74
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	169.55	234.18	227.19	33.99	-2.99
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	155.86	225.42	225.86	44.91	0.20
6. Cowpea	Kg	624.70	1324.44	1187.41	90.08	-10.35
7.Green Grams	Kg	664.31	1407.67	1555.76	134.19	10.52
8. Coconut	Each	84.56	109.98	114.03	34.85	3.68
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	523.73	539.66	549.33	4.89	1.79
10.Chicken	Kg	782.94	1283.98	1231.39	57.28	-4.10
11. Eggs	Each	26.61	45.73	49.51	86.02	8.27
12. Red Onion	Kg	406.64	530.66	427.48	5.12	-19.44
13. Big Onion	Kg	173.81	164.74	133.89	-22.96	-18.72
14. Potatoes	Kg	214.42	258.05	244.92	14.22	-5.09
15. Garlic	Kg	515.94	529.12	530.38	2.80	0.24
16. Dried Chillies	Kg	1102.90	1654.57	1469.51	33.24	-11.18
17. Green Chillies	Kg	605.21	520.68	559.32	-7.58	7.42
18. Sugar	Kg	160.94	229.77	228.77	42.15	-0.43
19. Pepper	Kg	1732.17	2665.72	2709.05	56.40	1.63
Vegetables-						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	154.50	325.78	309.85	100.56	-4.89
21. Carrot	Kg	391.48	271.08	232.11	-40.71	-14.38
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	274.45	326.39	302.96	10.39	-7.18
23. Tomatoes	Kg	367.95	314.65	293.24	-20.30	-6.81
24. Capsicum	Kg	519.69	872.65	642.47	23.63	-26.38
25. Beetroot	Kg	288.35	330.55	285.49	-0.99	-13.63
26. Beans	Kg	290.41	518.27	377.25	29.90	-27.21
Fruits						
27. Banana	Kg	169.11	312.50	313.38	85.32	0.28
28. Papaw	Kg	294.54	327.22	369.67	25.51	12.97
29. Mangoes	Each	140.61	232.45	259.20	84.34	11.50
Fresh Fish –						
30. Seer	Kg	2397.11	3407.66	3149.31	31.38	-7.58
31.Talapath	Kg	1877.21	2592.09	2269.59	20.90	-12.44
32.Paraw	Kg	1642.70	2412.27	2123.80	29.29	-11.96
Dried Fish -						
33.Katta	Kg	1709.02	2513.86	2489.19	45.65	-0.98
34. Sprats	Kg	983.86	1367.57	1330.52	35.23	-2.71
Fuel -						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	87.00	355.00	317.50	264.94	-10.56
36 .Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	211.95	389.29	400.00	88.72	2.75
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	152.51	405.00	405.00	165.55	0.00
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	2817.95	4725.21	4877.25	73.08	3.22
	Litro	2675.00	4576.00	4743.00	77.31	3.65
	Laughs	3246.79	5172.86	5280.00	62.62	2.07





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