



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

December 2023

29-12-2023

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 December 2023 was 195.1 and it records an increase of 1.7 in index points compared to November 2023
- ❏ The overall rate of inflation as measured by CCPI on Y-on-Y basis is 4.0% in December 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

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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 (%) ¹		
	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.
	2022	2023	2023	2022	2023	2023	2022	2023	2023
All Items	187.6	193.4	195.1	476.92	1865.90	1574.25	0.28	1.06	0.89
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	238.2	230.3	238.9	-163.46	202.83	2062.02	-0.10	0.12	1.16
Non Food	169.6	180.2	179.5	640.37	1663.07	-487.78	0.37	0.95	-0.27
Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	167.8	206.0	204.1	-36.96	-30.69	-29.67	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02
Clothing and Footwear	222.7	242.5	236.6	173.94	6.33	-118.99	0.10	0.00	-0.07
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	132.8	154.8	154.6	105.71	1744.96	-61.77	0.06	0.99	-0.03
Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	187.3	182.3	182.6	13.29	26.60	10.55	0.01	0.02	0.01
Transport	238.5	230.3	227.6	141.09	-60.68	-308.38	0.08	-0.03	-0.17
Recreation and Culture	158.8	172.5	173.5	105.81	-28.27	17.38	0.06	-0.02	0.01
Other	176.7	180.4	180.4	137.50	4.83	3.11	0.08	0.00	0.00

*Note: There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in December 2023 were noted in seven main groups, details on which are given in Table2.

Note 2: For the December 2023, group of 'Health', 'Communication', 'Education', 'Restaurant and Hotels', and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' consider as the 'Other Groups'.

Note 3: Monthly change of the index (%) is calculated using expenditure values.

Note 4: ¹ Percentage of items does 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 December 2023 was 195.1 and it records an increase of 1.7 index points that is 0.89 percentage change compared to the month of November 2023 for which the index was 193.4. This represents an increase in expenditure value by Rs 1574.25 in the "Market Basket".

1.1.1 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the change in CCPI from November 2023 to December 2023 are given in Table 02. The month-on-month change was contributed by an increase in Food items by 1.16% and a decrease in Non Food items by 0.27% respectively.

1.1.2 Contribution of Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages items: 1.16%

As shown in Table 02, increases in value change were reported for Vegetables (0.40%), Fresh Fish (0.28%), Green chillies (0.18%), Big Onions (0.17%), Eggs (0.08%), Coconuts (0.08%), Chicken (0.07%), Sugar (0.04%), Rice (0.03%), Milk Powder (0.02%), Red Onions (0.02%), Potatoes (0.02%), Coconut oil (0.01%), Cowpea (0.01%), Gram (0.01%) and Turmeric Powder (0.01%).

While decreases in value change were reported for Limes (0.18%), Fresh Fruit (0.04%), Dried Fish (0.01%), Tea dust/ leaves (0.01%), Garlic (0.01%) and Canned Fish (0.01%).

1.1.3 Contribution of Non-Food items: -0.27%

Among Non-Food groups, decreases in value change were reported for the groups of 'Transport' (*Petrol and Diesel*) (0.17%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.07%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (*Maintenance/ Reconstruction*) (0.03%) and 'Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic' (*Arecanuts*) (0.02%).

While increases in value change were reported for the groups of 'Recreation and Culture' (0.01%) and 'Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' (0.01%). Further, a very slight price increase was reported in the group of 'Restaurant and Hotels' and very slight price decreases were reported in the groups of 'Health' and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services'. Meanwhile, the price indices of 'Communication' and 'Education' groups remained unchanged during the month.

**Table 02: Contribution to the change in CCPI from November 2023 to December 2023
(Base2021=100)**

Food	Value Change			
	Rs.Cts.	% change		Net effect
		Increase	Decrease	
	2062.02	1.41	0.25	1.16
1 Rice	57.82	0.03		
<i>Rice - (Kekulu white)</i>	14.85	0.01		
<i>Rice - (Kekulu - red)</i>	32.15	0.02		
2 Gram	9.81	0.01		
3 Cowpea	10.08	0.01		
4 Chicken	118.04	0.07		
5 Fresh Fish	492.73	0.28		
6 Dried Fish	-20.49		0.01	
7 Canned fish	-10.15		0.01	
8 Milk powder	42.99	0.02		
9 Eggs	149.05	0.08		
10 Coconuts	148.30	0.08		
11 Coconut oil	14.81	0.01		
12 Fresh Fruits	-67.94		0.04	
<i>Banana</i>	-50.86		0.03	
<i>Papaw</i>	-12.49		0.01	
<i>Mangoes</i>	-50.38		0.03	
<i>Water Melon</i>	47.09	0.03		
13 Vegetables	703.10	0.40		
14 Potatoes	34.75	0.02		
15 Red onions	35.48	0.02		
16 Big onions	299.68	0.17		
17 Garlic	-10.51		0.01	
18 Green chilies	318.18	0.18		
19 Sugar	66.21	0.04		
20 Turmeric powder	9.08	0.01		

21	Limes	-322.05		0.18	
22	Tea dust/ leaves	-14.50		0.01	
23	Other	-2.46		0.00	
Non-Food		-487.78	0.02	0.29	-0.27
24	Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	-29.67		0.02	
	<i>Beetle leaves</i>	-10.51		0.01	
	<i>Areca nuts</i>	-15.18		0.01	
25	Clothing & Footwear	-118.99		0.07	
	<i>Clothing</i>	-113.49		0.06	
26	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	-61.77		0.03	
	<i>Maintenance/ Reconstruction</i>	-73.57		0.04	
	<i>L. P. Gas</i>	11.75	0.01		
27	Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	10.55	0.01		
28	Transport	-308.38		0.17	
	<i>Petrol</i>	-246.99		0.14	
	<i>Diesel</i>	-66.78		0.04	
29	Recreation and Culture	17.38	0.01		
	<i>Exercise books and stationeries.</i>	17.38	0.01		
30	Others	3.11	0.00		
All Items		1574.25	1.43	0.54	0.89

*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	December	187.6	0.3			238.2	-0.3			169.6	0.5		
2023	January	188.6	0.5			240.0	0.8			170.4	0.5		
	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	
	April	192.3	-1.4	35.3		228.8	-0.1	30.6		179.3	-2.0	37.6	
	May	192.3	0.0	25.2		232.7	1.7	21.5		177.9	-0.8	27.0	
	June	192.3	0.0	12.0		235.7	1.3	4.1		176.9	-0.6	16.2	
	July	190.2	-1.1	6.3		235.8	0.0	-1.4		173.9	-1.7	10.5	
	August	190.1	-0.1	4.0		232.8	-1.3	-4.8		174.9	0.6	8.7	
	September	191.8	0.9	1.3		234.1	0.6	-5.2		176.7	1.0	4.7	
	October	191.4	-0.2	1.5		229.5	-2.0	-5.2		177.8	0.6	4.9	
	November	193.4	1.0	3.4		230.3	0.3	-3.6		180.2	1.3	6.8	
	December	195.1	0.9	4.0	17.4	238.9	3.7	0.3	12.1	179.5	-0.4	5.8	20.0

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 the CCPI on Y-on-Y basis is 4.0% in December 2023 and Y-on-Y inflation calculated for the month of November 2023 was 3.4% (Table 3). The Y-on-Y inflation of Food Group increased to 0.3% in December 2023 from -3.6% in November 2023 and the Y-on-Y inflation of Non Food Group decreased to 5.8% in December 2023 from 6.8% in November 2023.

2.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of December 2023, on Y-on-Y basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was 0.10%.

The contribution of Non Food items was 3.90%. This was mainly due to price increases in groups of items 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (3.67%), 'Education' (0.45%), 'Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic' (0.32%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.16%), 'Recreation and Culture' (0.15%) and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.02%). While decreases in value change were reported for the groups of Transport' (0.72%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' (0.09%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (0.06%) and Health' (0.01%). Further, a very slight price increase was reported in group of 'Communication' during the month.

Table 04: Contribution to the increase in CCPI from December 2022 December 2023

(Base 2021=100)				
Sub Group/Commodity	Value Change	Increase	Decrease	Net effect
	Rs.Cts.	%	%	%
FOOD AND NON ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	170.56	1.85	1.75	0.10
Rice	275.78	0.16		
Bread (Normal)	-428.19		0.25	
Chicken	-201.88		0.12	
Dried fish	-244.96		0.14	
Milk powder	-553.32		0.32	
Coconuts	275.37	0.16		
Fresh Fruits	-225.56		0.13	
Vegetable	757.93	0.44		
Big onions	493.03	0.29		
Green chilies	476.28	0.28		
Sugar	289.54	0.17		
Chili powder	-246.07		0.14	
Dried chilies	-244.88		0.14	
Limes	330.06	0.19		
NON FOOD	6718.70	4.78	0.88	3.90
Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	557.90	0.32		
Arrack	222.91	0.13		
Whiskey	84.37	0.05		
Beer	25.95	0.02		
Cigarettes	289.73	0.17		
Clothing and Footwear	281.15	0.16		
Clothing	275.64	0.16		
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	6329.59	3.67		
Maintenance/ Reconstruction	-490.03		0.28	
Water bills	1458.31	0.85		
Electricity bill	6217.46	3.61		
L. P. Gas	-698.58		0.41	
Kerosene oil	-153.98		0.09	

Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	-151.61	0.09		
Health	-14.59	0.01		
<i>Purchase of medical/ pharmacy products</i>	-91.89	0.05		
<i>spectacles</i>	-96.73	0.06		
<i>Consultation fees to specialists</i>	79.23	0.05		
Transport	-1247.56	0.72		
<i>Petrol</i>	-515.17	0.30		
<i>Diesel</i>	-259.11	0.15		
Communication	1.31	0.00		
Recreation and Culture	263.61	0.15		
Education	776.24	0.45		
Restaurant and hotels	-108.41	0.06		
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	31.09	0.02		
All Items	6889.27	6.63	2.63	4.00

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

Movements in the CCPI (Base 2021=100) and Year on Year Inflation for Head Line, Food, Non Food

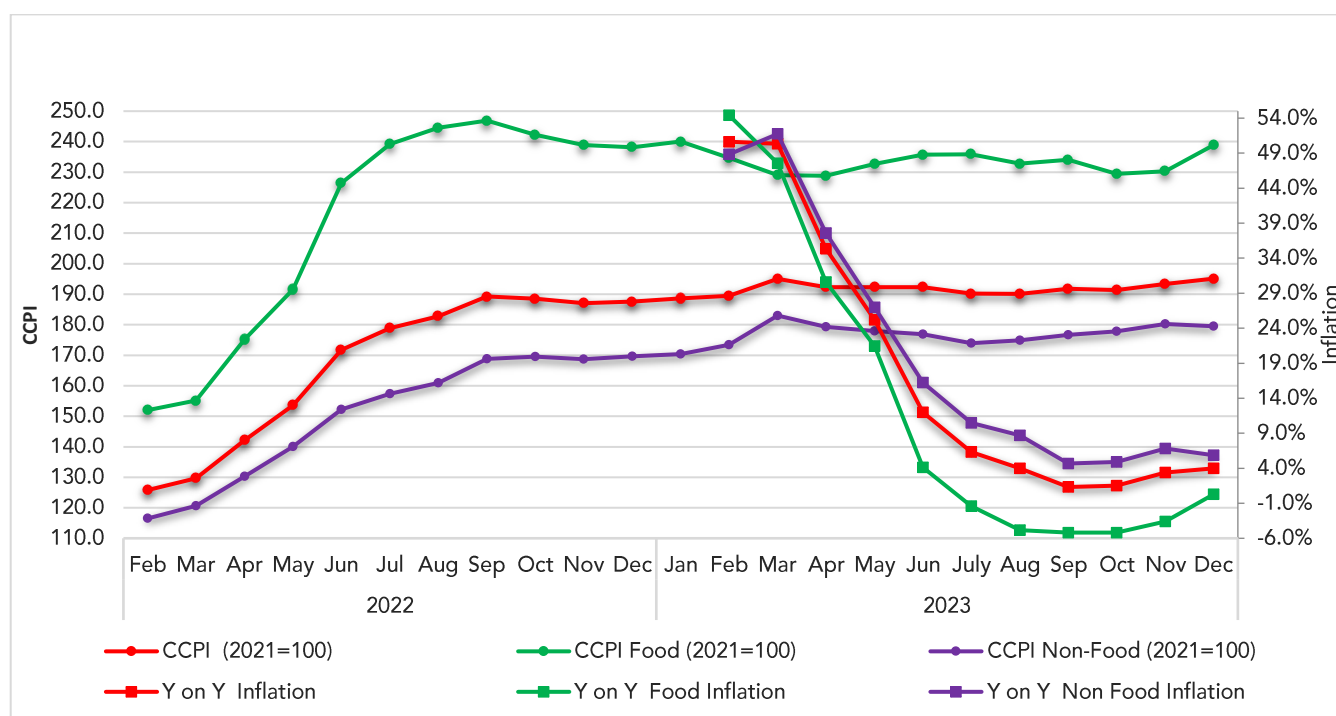


Table 05: Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index December 2022, November & December 2023

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2022 Dec.	2023 Nov.	2023 Dec.	Dec. 23/ Dec. 22	Dec. 23 / Nov. 23
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	223.41	196.24	201.05	-0.10	0.02
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	199.77	209.24	211.40	0.06	0.01
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	209.90	218.10	219.74	0.05	0.01
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	240.62	218.72	222.05	-0.08	0.02
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	220.83	237.38	237.38	0.07	0.00
6. Cowpea	Kg	1240.26	1108.58	1168.37	-0.06	0.05
7.Green Grams	Kg	1222.97	981.29	980.86	-0.20	0.00
8. Coconut	Each	98.87	104.77	111.67	0.13	0.07
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	479.30	441.38	447.94	-0.07	0.01
10.Chicken	Kg	1292.05	1152.74	1204.14	-0.07	0.04
11. Eggs	Each	52.43	43.78	51.43	-0.02	0.17
12. Red Onion	Kg	696.80	536.15	582.07	-0.16	0.09
13. Big Onion	Kg	224.80	279.53	364.36	0.62	0.30
14. Potatoes	Kg	347.62	279.27	295.52	-0.15	0.06
15. Garlic	Kg	539.08	668.32	649.77	0.21	-0.03
16. Dried Chilies	Kg	1804.85	1298.41	1285.94	-0.29	-0.01
17. Green Chilies	Kg	463.96	747.47	1318.08	1.84	0.76
18. Sugar	Kg	236.05	296.42	314.32	0.33	0.06
19. Pepper	Kg	2674.11	2777.31	2808.59	0.05	0.01
Vegetables-						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	295.82	367.03	424.96	0.44	0.16
21. Carrot	Kg	447.51	386.34	475.78	0.06	0.23
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	423.57	451.54	446.44	0.05	-0.01
23. Tomatoes	Kg	307.44	357.14	662.34	1.15	0.85
24. Capsicum	Kg	949.87	696.29	804.40	-0.15	0.16
25. Beetroot	Kg	462.86	319.66	569.93	0.23	0.78
26. Beans	Kg	524.96	630.65	672.64	0.28	0.07
Fruits						
27. Banana	Kg	278.62	339.03	326.65	0.17	-0.04
28. Papaw	Kg	382.61	212.68	207.12	-0.46	-0.03
29. Mangoes	Each	171.32	154.16	114.66	-0.33	-0.26
Fresh Fish –						

30. Seer	Kg	3111.10	2873.92	3268.94	0.05	0.14
31.Talapath	Kg	2570.78	2473.64	2625.93	0.02	0.06
32.Paraw	Kg	2166.86	2069.31	2301.96	0.06	0.11
Dried Fish -						
33.Katta	Kg	2567.09	2224.43	2215.09	-0.14	0.00
34. Sprats	Kg	1477.12	1324.24	1309.20	-0.11	-0.01
Fuel -						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	365.00	247.25	247.29	-0.32	0.00
36. Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	370.00	358.25	347.43	-0.06	-0.03
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	422.86	354.75	332.86	-0.21	-0.06
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	4728.93	3652.19	3670.00	-0.22	0.00
Litro	12.5kg	4538.57	3541.25	3565.00	-0.21	0.01
Laughs	12.5kg	5300.00	3985.00	3985.00	-0.25	0.00

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