



NEWS RELEASE
THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2013=100): April 2021



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Issuing the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of April 2021, the Director General (Actg.) of Census and Statistics said that headline inflation as measured by the Year-on-Year change (The percentage change in the current month NCPI over same month NCPI of last year) based on the NCPI has been compiled as 5.5%. The headline inflation reported for the month of March 2021 was 5.1%. Contributions to the inflation rate of April 2021 from food group and non-food group are 4.3% and 1.2% respectively. Whilst contributions of food and non-food groups to the inflation in April 2020 were 5.2% and 0.7% respectively, resulting in a headline inflation of 5.9%. With respect to April 2020, the reported increase in percentage of food group was mainly due to higher price levels prevailed in this month of April 2021, particularly prices of vegetables, rice coconuts, turmeric powder, coconut oil and mysore dhal.

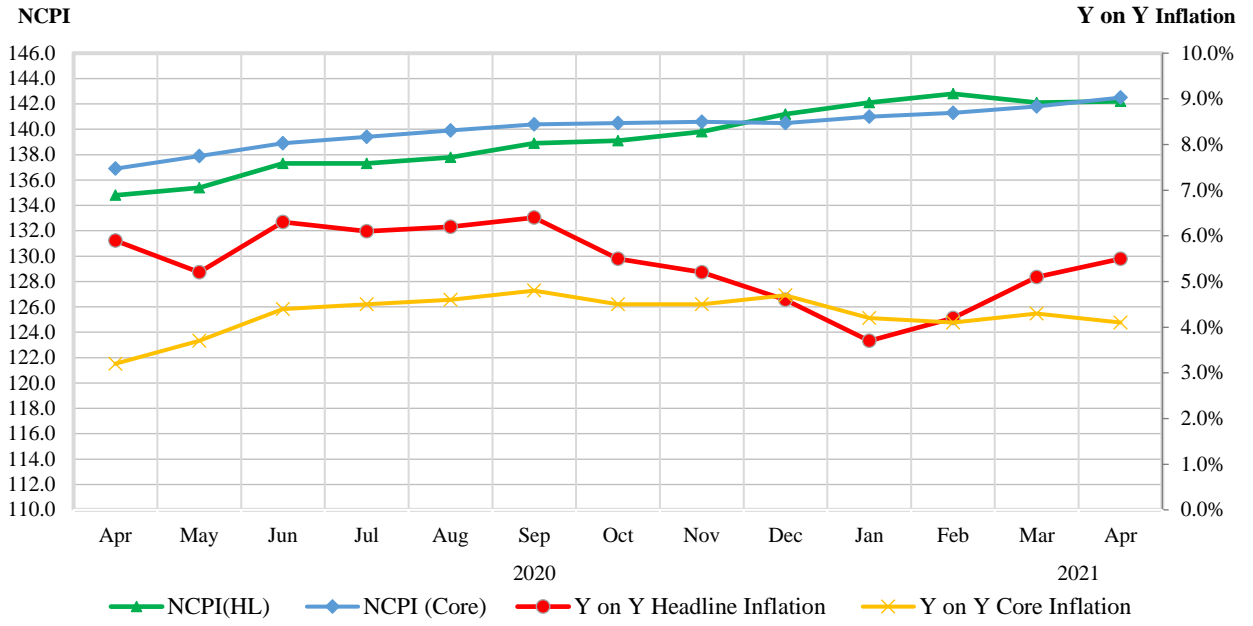
Comparing the month-on-month changes, NCPI in April 2021 has increased to 142.2 from 142.1 reported in March 2021. This shows an increase of 0.1 index points or 0.1 percentage as compared to March 2021. The month-on-month change was contributed by increases of index values of food items by 0.02% and non-food items by 0.06% respectively.

Price increases of food items were reported for coconut oil, fresh fish, fresh fruits, chicken, rice, green gram, dried fish, mysore dhal, cowpea, sugar, gram, and chili powder. However, decreases in index values were reported for coconuts, vegetables, big onions, red onions, green chilies, potatoes, eggs, tamarind, turmeric powder and limes.

The increases in index values of non-food groups in April 2021 compared to the previous month was mainly due to the price increases in groups of items 'Clothing and Footwear', 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance', 'Transport (*Lubricating oil*) and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services'. Further, very slight price increase was reported in group of 'Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' as well. Meanwhile, the price indices of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels', 'Health', 'Communication', 'Recreation and Culture', 'Education', and 'Restaurants and Hotels' groups remained unchanged during the month.

Core inflation, which reflects the underlying inflation by excluding volatile items of food, energy and transport groups in the economy as measured by the Year-on-Year change based on NCPI for the month of April 2021 has decreased to 4.1% from 4.3% in March 2021.

**Movements of the NCPI (Base 2013=100), NCPI(Core), Year on Year
Headline Inflation and Year on Year Core Inflation**



Movements of the NCPI (Base : 2013 = 100)

| Year | Month | Index Number | | Month to Month % change of Index Number | | Year on Year Inflation % | |
|------|-----------|--------------|-------------|---|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | NCPI(HL) | NCPI (Core) | NCPI(HL) | NCPI (Core) | NCPI(HL) | NCPI (Core) |
| 2020 | April | 134.8 | 136.9 | -0.3 | 0.7 | 5.9 | 3.2 |
| | May | 135.4 | 137.9 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 5.2 | 3.7 |
| | June | 137.3 | 138.9 | 1.4 | 0.7 | 6.3 | 4.4 |
| | July | 137.3 | 139.4 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 6.1 | 4.5 |
| | August | 137.8 | 139.9 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 6.2 | 4.6 |
| | September | 138.9 | 140.4 | 0.8 | 0.4 | 6.4 | 4.8 |
| | October | 139.1 | 140.5 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 5.5 | 4.5 |
| | November | 139.8 | 140.6 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 5.2 | 4.5 |
| | December | 141.2 | 140.5 | 1.0 | -0.1 | 4.6 | 4.7 |
| 2021 | January | 142.1 | 141.0 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 3.7 | 4.2 |
| | February | 142.8 | 141.3 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 4.2 | 4.1 |
| | March | 142.1 | 141.8 | -0.5 | 0.4 | 5.1 | 4.3 |
| | April | 142.2 | 142.5 | 0.1 | 0.5 | 5.5 | 4.1 |