

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

March 2025

28-03-2025

Department of Census and Statistics

Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

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 2025 was 191.6 and it records a decrease of 0.6 index points compared to February 2025, for which the index was 192.2.
- 📄 The overall rate of inflation as measured by CCPI on Y-on-Y basis is -2.6% in March 2025

Content

01. Variations in Colombo Consumer Price Index (Page 1)
02. Inflation:(Page 5)

[🔗 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 (%) ¹		
	Mar	Feb	Mar.	Mar	Feb	Mar.	Mar	Feb	Mar.
	2024	2025	2025	2024	2025	2025	2024	2025	2025
All Items	196.7	192.2	191.6	-3576.00	-374.70	-542.77	-1.94	-0.21	-0.31
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	237.8	242.3	239.2	-1210.19	194.65	-750.97	-0.66	0.11	-0.43
Non Food	182.1	174.3	174.6	-2365.82	-569.35	208.20	-1.28	-0.32	0.12
Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	237.1	244.1	247.1	69.21	49.08	45.49	0.04	0.03	0.03
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	150.5	132.2	132.6	-2383.56	-650.06	115.12	-1.29	-0.37	0.07
Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	186.3	188.4	187.7	-24.20	-21.01	-21.43	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Health	172.4	183.0	184.0	0.00	0.00	37.58	0.00	0.00	0.02
Recreation and Culture	180.0	181.0	181.8	0.00	-19.46	13.69	0.00	-0.01	0.01
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	188.6	195.1	195.6	24.35	26.16	13.92	0.01	0.01	0.01
Other	214.9	211.9	211.9	-51.60	45.94	3.82	-0.03	0.03	0.00

Note 1: There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in March 2025 were noted in seven groups, details on which are given in Table2.

Note 2: Monthly change of the index (%) is calculated using expenditure values.

Note 3:¹ 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 March 2025 was 191.6 and it records a decrease of 0.6 index points or 0.31 percentage compared to the month of February 2025 for which the index was 192.2. This represents a decrease in expenditure value by Rs 542.77 in the "Market Basket".

1.1.1 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the change in CCPI from February 2025 to March 2025 are given in Table 02. The month-on-month change was contributed to by decrease in Food items of 0.43% and an increase in Non Food items by 0.12%, respectively.

1.1.2 Contribution of Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages items: -0.43%

As shown in table 02, decreases in value change were reported for Vegetables (0.23%), Fresh fish (0.10%), Green Chillies (0.07%), Big Onions (0.06%), Rice (0.05%), Tamarind (0.05%), Red Onions (0.04%), Coconuts (0.03%), Eggs (0.02%), Bread (Normal) (0.01%), Canned Fish (0.01%), Sugar (0.01%), Chilli Powder (0.01%), Dried Chillies (0.01%) and Turmeric Powder (0.01%).

While increases in value change were reported for Fresh Fruits (0.15%), Chicken (0.06%), Salt (0.06%), Dried Fish (0.02%), Green Gram (0.01%), Beef (0.01%), Potatoes (0.01%), Coconut oil (0.01%) and Ginger (0.01%).

1.1.3 Contribution of Non-Food items: 0.12%

Increases in value change were reported for the groups of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (*Maintenance/Reconstruction* (0.07%), groups of 'Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic' (*Beetle leaves*) (0.03%), 'Health' (*Consultation fees to specialists*) (0.02%) 'Recreation and Culture' (0.01%) and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.01%).

Among Non-Food groups, decreases in value change were reported for the 'Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' (0.01%).

Further, a very slight price decrease was reported in the group of 'Transport' and slight price increase was reported in the group of 'Clothing and Footwear' meanwhile, the price indexes of 'Communication', 'Education' and 'Restaurant and Hotels' groups remained unchanged during the month.

**Table 02: Contribution to the change in CCPI from February 2025 to March 2025
(Base2021=100)**

	Rs.Cts.	Value Change		Net effect
		Increase	Decrease	
Food	-750.97	0.33	0.75	-0.43
1 Rice	-91.81		0.05	
<i>Rice - (Kekulu white)</i>	<i>-24.45</i>		<i>0.01</i>	
<i>Rice - (Kekulu - red)</i>	<i>-63.42</i>		<i>0.04</i>	
2 Green gram	9.81	0.01		
3 Bread (Normal)	-24.63		0.01	
4 Chicken	100.86	0.06		
5 Beef	12.14	0.01		
6 Fresh Fish	-184.13		0.10	
7 Dried Fish	28.02	0.02		
<i>Sprats (dry)</i>	<i>-31.02</i>		<i>0.02</i>	
<i>Katta (dry)</i>	<i>53.62</i>	<i>0.03</i>		
8 Canned fish	-19.20		0.01	
9 Eggs	-39.20		0.02	
10 Coconut	-53.36		0.03	
11 Coconut oil	23.38	0.01		
12 Fresh Fruits	273.07	0.15		
<i>Papaw</i>	<i>208.14</i>	<i>0.12</i>		
<i>Mangoes</i>	<i>98.04</i>	<i>0.06</i>		
13 Vegetables	-401.77		0.23	
14 Potatoes	9.48	0.01		
15 Red onions	-67.21		0.04	
16 Big onions	-106.97		0.06	
17 Green chilies	-124.47		0.07	
18 Sugar	-21.66		0.01	

19	Chili powder	-25.63		0.01	
20	Dried chilies	-12.13		0.01	
21	Salt	105.67	0.06		
22	Turmeric powder	-20.92		0.01	
23	Tamarind	-86.69		0.05	
24	Ginger	11.78	0.01		
25	Others	-45.40		0.03	
	Non Food	208.20	0.13	0.01	0.12
26	Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	45.49	0.03		
	<i>Beetle leaves</i>	<i>35.77</i>	<i>0.02</i>		
	<i>Areca nuts</i>	<i>9.72</i>	<i>0.01</i>		
27	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	115.12	0.07		
	<i>Maintenance/ Reconstruction</i>	<i>115.12</i>	<i>0.07</i>		
28	Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	-21.43		0.01	
29	Health	37.58	0.02		
	<i>Consultation fees to specialists</i>	<i>36.22</i>	<i>0.02</i>		
30	Recreation and Culture	13.69	0.01		
	<i>Toys</i>	<i>13.69</i>	<i>0.01</i>		
31	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	13.92	0.01		
	<i>Hair cutting and shaving charges</i>	<i>14.91</i>	<i>0.01</i>		
32	Others	3.82	0.00		
	All Items	-542.77	0.45	0.76	-0.31

*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.
2024	March	196.7	-1.9	0.9	8.0	237.8	-2.1	3.8	2.9	182.1	-1.9	-0.5	10.5
	April	195.2	-0.8	1.5	5.7	235.4	-1.0	2.9	1.2	180.9	-0.7	0.9	7.9
	May	194.1	-0.6	0.9	3.9	232.6	-1.2	0.0	-0.3	180.3	-0.3	1.3	6.0
	June	195.6	0.8	1.7	3.1	239.1	2.8	1.4	-0.5	180.1	-0.1	1.8	4.9
	July	194.7	-0.5	2.4	2.8	239.4	0.1	1.5	-0.2	178.8	-0.7	2.8	4.3
	August	191.1	-1.8	0.5	2.5	234.6	-2.0	0.8	0.2	175.6	-1.8	0.4	3.6
	September	190.9	-0.1	-0.5	2.4	233.3	-0.6	-0.3	0.7	175.8	0.1	-0.5	3.2
	October	189.9	-0.5	-0.8	2.2	231.9	-0.6	1.0	1.2	174.9	-0.5	-1.6	2.6
	November	189.4	-0.3	-2.1	1.7	231.7	-0.1	0.6	1.6	174.3	-0.3	-3.3	1.8
	December	191.7	1.2	-1.7	1.2	240.7	3.9	0.8	1.6	174.2	-0.1	-3.0	1.1
2025	January	192.6	0.5	-4.0	0.4	241.5	0.3	-2.6	1.1	175.2	0.6	-4.7	0.0
	February	192.2	-0.2	-4.2	-0.5	242.3	0.3	-0.2	0.8	174.3	-0.5	-6.1	-1.1
	March	191.6	-0.3	-2.6	-0.8	239.2	-1.3	0.6	0.5	174.6	0.2	-4.1	-1.4

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 -2.6% in March 2025 and Y-on-Y inflation calculated for the month of February 2025 was -4.2% (Table 03). The Y-on-Y inflation of Food Group increased to 0.6% in March 2025 from -0.2% in February 2025 and the Y-on-Y inflation of Non Food Group increased to -4.1% in March 2025 from -6.1% in February 2025.

2.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of March 2025, on Y-on-Y basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was 0.19%.

The contribution of Non Food items was -2.81%. This was mainly due to price decreases in the groups of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (2.87%), 'Transport' (0.81%) and 'Restaurants and Hotels' (0.01%). However, price increases in groups of items were reported for 'Education' (0.25%), 'Health' (0.24%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.15%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.11%), 'Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.09%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' (0.02%) and 'Recreation and Culture' (0.02%). Further, a very slight price decrease was reported in the group of 'Communication' compared to the month of March 2024.

Table 04: Contribution to the decrease in CCPI from March 2024 March 2025
(Base 2021=100)

Sub Group/Commodity	Value	Increase %	Decrease %	Net effect %
	Change Rs.Cts.			
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	339.74	1.97	1.78	0.19
Rice	199.21	0.11		
Wheat flour	-39.02		0.02	
Green gram	-146.50		0.08	
Bread (Normal)	-162.07		0.09	
Chicken	-123.90		0.07	
Sea fish	171.41	0.09		
Canned fish	-92.47		0.05	
Eggs	-430.48		0.24	
Coconuts	2096.06	1.16		
Coconut oil	350.57	0.19		
Fresh Fruits	-367.23		0.20	
Vegetable	-48.47		0.03	
Big Onions	-1150.43		0.64	
Green chilies	394.74	0.22		
Sugar	-157.35		0.09	
Chili powder	-130.38		0.07	
Dried chilies	-142.27		0.08	
Salt	171.12	0.09		
Turmeric/Turmeric powder	131.44	0.07		
Tamarind	156.02	0.09		
Tea dust/ leaves	64.60	0.04		
Non Food	-5078.90	0.88	3.69	-2.81
Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	153.82	0.09		
<i>Arrack</i>	<i>38.59</i>	<i>0.02</i>		
<i>Cigarettes</i>	<i>72.43</i>	<i>0.04</i>		
Clothing and Footwear	271.70	0.15		
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other				
Fuels	-5189.47		2.87	
<i>Housing rent</i>	<i>145.93</i>	<i>0.08</i>		
<i>Maintenance/ Reconstruction</i>	<i>187.77</i>	<i>0.10</i>		
<i>Water bills</i>	<i>-259.82</i>		<i>0.14</i>	
<i>Electricity bill</i>	<i>-4712.78</i>		<i>2.61</i>	
<i>L. P. Gas</i>	<i>-451.89</i>		<i>0.25</i>	
<i>Kerosene oil</i>	<i>-98.67</i>		<i>0.05</i>	
Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine				
Household Maintenance	44.65	0.02		
Health	427.07	0.24		
<i>Fees to private medical practices</i>	<i>233.08</i>	<i>0.13</i>		
<i>Consultation fees to specialists</i>	<i>98.54</i>	<i>0.05</i>		
Transport	-1456.28		0.81	
<i>Petrol</i>	<i>-1410.32</i>		<i>0.78</i>	
<i>Diesel</i>	<i>-234.06</i>		<i>0.13</i>	
<i>bus fare</i>	<i>-187.93</i>		<i>0.10</i>	
Communication	-4.22		0.00	
Recreation and Culture	32.14	0.02		
Education	453.56	0.25		
Restaurant and Hotels	-16.78		0.01	
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	204.89	0.11		
All Items	-4739.17	2.86	5.48	-2.62

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

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

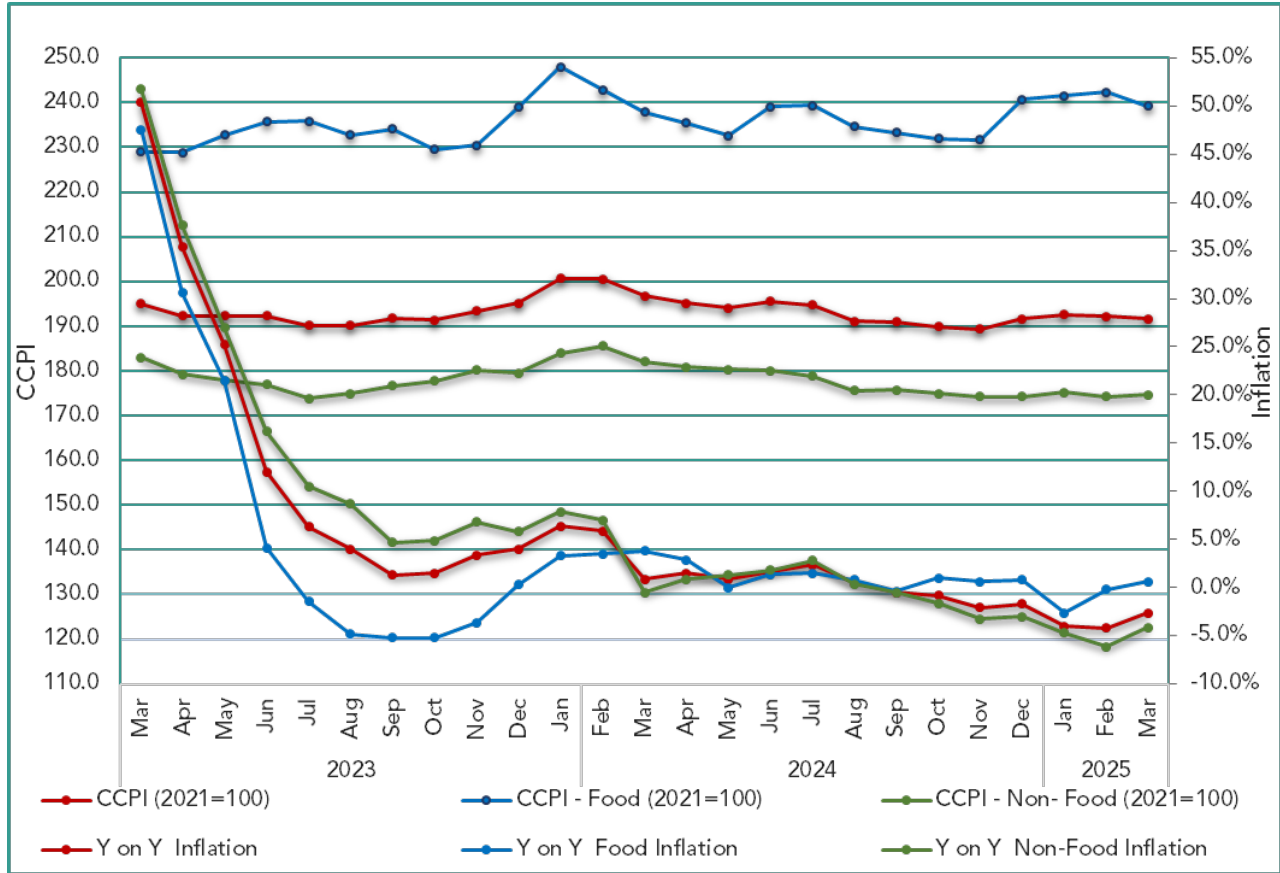


Table 05: Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index March 2024, February 2025 & March 2025


Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2024 Mar.	2025 Feb.	2025 Mar.	Mar. 25/ Mar. 24	Mar. 25 / Feb. 25
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	192.33	235.42	225.93	17.47	-4.03
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	209.24	224.66	221.11	5.67	-1.58
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	218.07	231.30	229.66	5.32	-0.71
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	222.48	257.97	253.64	14.00	-1.68
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	269.76	245.21	246.18	-8.74	0.39
6. Cowpea	Kg	1119.13	820.10	820.73	-26.66	0.08
7.Green Grams	Kg	1299.22	760.40	794.23	-38.87	4.45
8. Coconut	Each	112.45	212.41	209.93	86.68	-1.17
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	447.66	592.66	603.02	34.70	1.75
10.Chicken	Kg	1192.77	1094.90	1138.82	-4.52	4.01
11. Eggs	Each	53.34	33.25	31.24	-41.44	-6.05
12. Red Onion	Kg	385.29	543.64	456.65	18.52	-16.00
13. Big Onion	Kg	514.25	218.89	188.62	-63.32	-13.83
14. Potatoes	Kg	293.20	296.30	300.73	2.57	1.50
15. Garlic	Kg	669.70	666.56	661.41	-1.24	-0.77
16. Dried Chilies	Kg	1144.53	868.76	843.07	-26.34	-2.96
17. Green Chilies	Kg	668.31	1599.42	1376.21	105.92	-13.96
18. Sugar	Kg	284.67	247.98	242.13	-14.94	-2.36
19. Pepper	Kg	2788.89	2751.31	2729.62	-2.13	-0.79
Vegetables-						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	404.87	293.13	289.99	-28.37	-1.07
21. Carrot	Kg	515.20	635.45	846.49	64.30	33.21
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	383.56	424.60	372.08	-2.99	-12.37
23. Tomatoes	Kg	552.54	344.49	333.28	-39.68	-3.25
24. Capsicum	Kg	772.53	1335.43	963.72	24.75	-27.83
25. Beetroot	Kg	448.57	551.03	338.73	-24.49	-38.53
26. Beans	Kg	592.90	583.84	489.82	-17.39	-16.10
Fruits						
27. Banana	Kg	280.95	255.34	260.74	-7.19	2.12
28. Papaw	Kg	317.14	269.78	362.33	14.25	34.31
29. Mangoes	Each	534.44	214.64	291.51	-45.46	35.81
Fresh Fish –						
30. Seer	Kg	3052.79	2978.77	2835.14	-7.13	-4.82
31.Talapath	Kg	2432.56	2588.79	2449.20	0.68	-5.39
32.Paraw	Kg	2093.42	1991.39	2150.96	2.75	8.01
Dried Fish -						
33.Katta	Kg	2211.94	2115.36	2321.85	4.97	9.76
34. Sprats	Kg	1277.92	1133.76	1076.50	-15.76	-5.05
Fuel -						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	258.43	183.00	183.00	-29.19	0.00
36. Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	371.00	309.00	309.00	-16.71	0.00
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	363.00	286.00	286.00	-21.21	0.00
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	4372.49	3687.50	3687.50	-15.67	0.00
Litro	12.5kg	4249.99	3690.00	3690.00	-13.18	0.00
Laughs	12.5kg	4740.00	3680.00	3680.00	-22.36	0.00





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