

**NEWS RELEASE****THE NATIONAL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BASE 2013=100): July 2022****Department of Census and Statistics****Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies****TEL: 011-2147414****FAX: 011-2877945****E-mail: prices@statistics.gov.lk**

Issuing the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI), for the month of July 2022, the Acting Director General 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 66.7%. The headline inflation reported for the month of June 2022 was 58.9%. Contributions to the inflation rate of July 2022 from the food group and non-food group are 39.3% and 27.4% respectively. Whilst contributions of food and non-food groups to the inflation in July 2021 were 5.1% and 1.7% respectively, resulting in a headline inflation of 6.8%. With respect to July 2021, the reported inflation for the month of July 2022 was mainly due to the higher price levels prevailed in both food and non-food groups. Accordingly, the Year-on-Year inflation of the food group increased to 82.5% in July 2022 from 75.8% in June 2022 and the Year-on-Year inflation of the non-food group increased to 52.4% in July 2022 from 43.6% in June 2022.

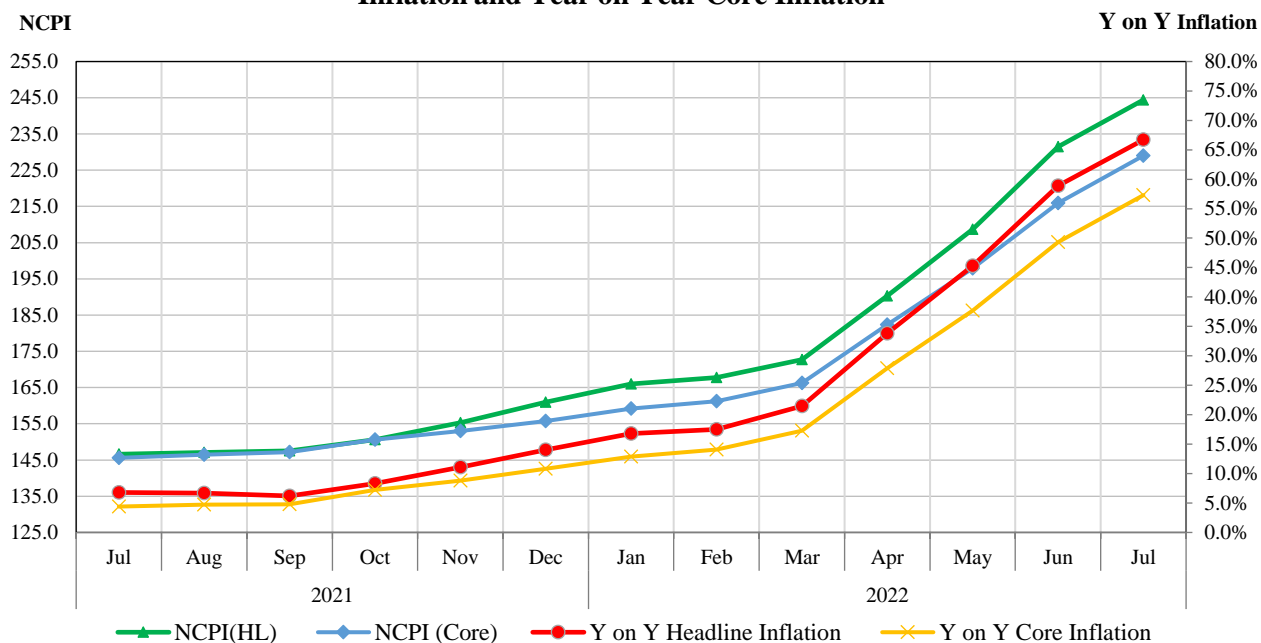
Comparing the month-on-month changes, NCPI in July 2022 has increased to 244.4 from 231.5 reported in June 2022. This shows an increase of 12.9 index points or 5.6 percent as compared to June 2022. The month-on-month change was contributed by increases of index values of food items by 2.4% and non-food items by 3.2% respectively.

Price increases of food items were mainly reported for Milk powder, Rice, Fresh fish, Biscuits, Chicken, Dried fish, Bread, Sugar, Chili powder, Fresh fruits, Potatoes, Infant milk powder, Canned fish, Dried chilies, Beef, Green chilies, Curry powder, Buns and Eggs. However, decreases in index values were reported for Vegetables, Coconut oil, Coconuts, Big onions, Red onions and Limes.

The increases in index values of non-food groups in July 2022 compared to the previous month was mainly due to the price increases in groups of items 'Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics' (*Betel leaves*), 'Clothing and Footwear', 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels' (*Materials for the Maintenance, and Firewood purchasing*), 'Furnishing, Household equipment and Routine household maintenance' (*Washing soap*), 'Health' (*Fees to private medical practices*), 'Transport' (*Petrol, Diesel and Bus fare*), 'Communication', 'Recreation and Culture' (*Exercise books and stationeries*), 'Education' (*Tuition fees*), 'Restaurants and Hotels' and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (*Toilet soap*).

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 July 2022 was increased to 57.3% from 49.3% reported in month of June 2022.

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)
		All Items	Food	Non Food	All Items			All Items	Food	Non Food	All Items
2021	July	146.6	158.5	137.2	145.6	0.6	0.7	6.8	11.0	3.2	4.4
	August	147.1	159.4	137.4	146.5	0.3	0.6	6.7	11.1	3.0	4.7
	September	147.5	159.6	137.9	147.2	0.3	0.5	6.2	10.0	3.0	4.8
	October	150.6	162.6	141.2	150.6	2.1	2.3	8.3	11.7	5.4	7.2
	November	155.3	171.5	142.6	153.0	3.1	1.6	11.1	16.9	6.2	8.8
	December	161.0	182.1	144.5	155.7	3.7	1.8	14.0	21.5	7.6	10.8
2022	January	166.0	188.3	148.4	159.2	3.1	2.2	16.8	24.4	10.2	12.9
	February	167.8	190.6	149.8	161.2	1.1	1.3	17.5	24.7	11.0	14.1
	March	172.7	195.2	154.9	166.3	2.9	3.2	21.5	29.5	14.5	17.3
	April	190.3	218.8	167.9	182.3	10.2	9.6	33.8	45.1	23.9	27.9
	May	208.7	242.2	182.4	197.9	9.7	8.6	45.3	58.0	34.2	37.7
	June	231.5	276.6	196.0	215.9	10.9	9.1	58.9	75.8	43.6	49.3
	July	244.4	289.3	209.1	229.0	5.6	6.1	66.7	82.5	52.4	57.3