

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

August 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 August 2023 was 190.1 and it records a decrease of 0.1 in index points compared to July 2023
- ▢ The overall rate of inflation as measured by CCPI on Y-on-Y basis is 4.0% in August 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 (%)		
	Aug.	Jul.	Aug.	Aug.	Jul.	Aug.	Aug.	Jul.	Aug.
	2022	2023	2023	2022	2023	2023	2022	2023	2023
All Items	182.8	190.2	190.1	3639.28	-1973.38	-39.08	2.21	-1.12	-0.02
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	244.6	235.8	232.8	1302.49	25.56	-721.77	0.79	0.01	-0.41
Non Food	160.9	173.9	174.9	2336.78	-1998.94	682.69	1.42	-1.13	0.39
Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	157.8	199.2	205.8	27.61	318.08	101.65	0.02	0.18	0.06
Clothing and Footwear	188.1	246.0	244.4	312.42	70.42	-30.92	0.19	0.04	-0.02
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	125.8	144.1	145.2	955.63	-2669.33	320.94	0.58	-1.51	0.18
Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	171.9	184.1	182.6	181.51	1.00	-46.49	0.11	0.00	-0.03
Health	156.2	173.4	173.2	113.66	-43.07	-9.63	0.07	-0.02	-0.01
Transport	247.8	221.8	225.1	386.91	22.56	385.30	0.24	0.01	0.22
Recreation and Culture	140.3	178.3	175.5	35.40	53.48	-50.05	0.02	0.03	-0.03
Education	142.1	160.3	161.4	0.00	238.51	51.26	0.00	0.13	0.03
Restaurant and Hotels	212.4	232.1	230.1	0.00	1.43	-97.28	0.00	0.00	-0.06
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	162.6	183.6	185.6	314.72	7.98	57.91	0.19	0.00	0.03
Communication	95.6	119.8	119.8	8.92	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00

Note1: There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in August 2023 were noted in eleven main groups, details on which are given Table2.

Note2: Monthly change of the index (%) is calculated using expenditure values.

Note3: 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 August 2023 was 190.1 and it records a decrease of 0.1 index points that is 0.02 percentage change compared to the month of July 2023 on an expenditure value basis for which the index was 190.2. This represents a decrease of expenditure value by Rs 39.08 in the "Market Basket".

1.1.1 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the change in CCPI from July 2023 to August 2023 were given in Table 2. The month-on-month change was contributed by decrease in Food items by 0.41% and increase in Non Food items by 0.39%.

1.1.2 Contribution of Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages items: -0.41%

As shown in Table 02, decreases in value change were reported for Fresh fish (0.18%), Vegetables (0.18%), Milk Powder (0.09%), Green Chillies (0.09%), Eggs (0.06%), Coconuts (0.03%), Biscuits (0.02%), Chicken (0.02%), Dried Fish (0.02%), Green Gram (0.01%), Margarine (0.01%), Coconut oil (0.01%), Dhal Mysoor (0.01%) and Red Onions (0.01%).

While increases in value change were reported for Fresh fruits (0.16%), Rice (0.04%), Limes (0.04%), Sugar (0.03%), Gram (0.01%), Cowpea (0.01%), Jak (0.01%), Big Onions (0.01%), Papadam (0.01%), Pepper (0.01%), Dried chilies (0.01%), Tea dust/leaves (0.01%) and Soft drinks (0.01%).

1.1.3 Contribution of Non-Food items: 0.39%

Among Non-Food groups, increases in value change were reported for the groups of 'Transport' (0.22%), 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (*Water bill*) (0.18%), 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotic' (0.06%), 'Education' (0.03%) and 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.03%). While decreases in value change were reported for the groups of 'Restaurant and Hotels' (0.06%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance' (0.03%), 'Recreation and Culture' (0.03%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.02%) and 'Health' (0.01%). Meanwhile, the price index of 'Communication' group remained unchanged during the month.

Table 02: Contribution to the change in CCPI from July 2023 to August 2023 (Base2021=100)

Food	Rs.Cts.	Value Change		Net effect
		Increase	Decrease	
	-721.77	0.35	0.76	-0.41
1 Rice	70.43	0.04		
<i>Rice - (Kekulu white)</i>	21.03	0.01		
<i>Rice - (Kekulu - red)</i>	24.58	0.01		
<i>Rice - (Samba)</i>	19.13	0.01		
2 Green gram	-25.02		0.01	
3 Gram	15.41	0.01		
4 Cowpea	21.99	0.01		
5 Biscuits	-26.76		0.02	
6 Chicken	-26.99		0.02	
7 Fresh Fish	-312.48		0.18	
8 Dried Fish	-33.82		0.02	
<i>Keerameen (dry)</i>	-22.81		0.01	
9 Milk powder	-163.10		0.09	
10 Eggs	-113.09		0.06	
11 Coconuts	-58.54		0.03	
12 Margarine	-13.86		0.01	
13 Coconut oil	-15.44		0.01	
14 Fresh Fruits	286.59	0.16		
<i>Banana</i>	76.02	0.04		
15 Vegetables	-306.40		0.18	
16 Jak	18.48	0.01		
17 Dhal Mysoor	-23.96		0.01	
18 Red onions	-21.90		0.01	
19 Big onions	20.05	0.01		
20 Green chilies	-165.16		0.09	
21 Papadam	9.81	0.01		
22 Sugar	46.04	0.03		
23 Pepper	10.86	0.01		

24	Dried chilies	8.82	0.01		
25	Limes	73.33	0.04		
26	Tea dust/ leaves	10.07	0.01		
27	Soft drinks	13.32	0.01		
28	Others	-20.44		0.01	
Non Food		682.69	0.52	0.13	0.39
29	Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	101.65	0.06		
	<i>Arrack</i>	26.02	0.01		
	<i>Whiskey</i>	10.33	0.01		
	<i>Cigarettes</i>	38.80	0.02		
	<i>Areca nuts</i>	23.32	0.01		
30	Clothing and Footwear	-30.92		0.02	
	<i>Clothing</i>	19.19	0.01		
	<i>Footwear</i>	-50.12		0.03	
31	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	320.94	0.18		
	<i>Maintenance/ Reconstruction</i>	-67.92		0.04	
	<i>Water bills</i>	989.57	0.57		
	<i>Electricity bill</i>	-537.39		0.31	
	<i>L. P. Gas</i>	-51.88		0.03	
	<i>Kerosene oil</i>	-11.45		0.01	
32	Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	-46.49		0.03	
	<i>Bed sheets & Pillow cases</i>	11.12	0.01		
	<i>Fans</i>	11.14	0.01		
	<i>Washing powder</i>	-41.38		0.02	
	<i>Dish wash liquid</i>	-29.78		0.02	
33	Health	-9.63		0.01	
	<i>Purchase of medical/ pharmacy products</i>	-10.40		0.01	
34	Transport	385.30	0.22		
	<i>Petrol</i>	366.82	0.21		
	<i>Van (other than schooling)</i>	11.09	0.01		
	<i>Taxi (other than schooling)</i>	11.53	0.01		
35	Recreation and Culture	-50.05		0.03	
	<i>Lotteries</i>	29.71	0.02		
	<i>Books</i>	-62.79		0.04	
	<i>Exercise books and stationeries.</i>	-21.86		0.01	
36	Education	51.26	0.03		
	<i>Tuition fees</i>	51.26	0.03		
37	Restaurant and Hotels	-97.28		0.06	
38	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	57.91	0.03		
	<i>Car Insurance</i>	69.55	0.04		
39	Communication	0.00	0.00		
All Items		-39.08	0.87	0.89	-0.02

*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	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		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			

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 August 2023 and Y-on-Y inflation calculated for the month of July 2023 was 6.3% (Table 3). The Y-on-Y inflation of Food Group decreased to -4.8% in August 2023 from -1.4% in July 2023 and the Y-on-Y inflation of Non Food Group decreased to 8.7% in August 2023 from 10.5% in July 2023.

2.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of August 2023, on Y-on-Y basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was -1.70%.

The contribution of Non Food items was 5.67%. This was mainly due to increases in value change in groups of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (3.34%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.68%), 'Education' (0.54%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (0.49%), 'Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic' (0.44%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.40%), 'Health' (0.37%), 'Recreation and Culture' (0.38%), 'Communication' (0.39%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment and routine Household Maintenance' (0.20%) and decrease in value change was reported for the group of 'Transport' (1.56%).

**Table 04: Contribution to the increase in CCPI from August 2022 to August 2023
(Base 2021=100)**

Sub Group/Commodity	Value Change Rs.Cts.	Increase %	Decrease %	Net effect %
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	-2850.61	0.83	2.53	-1.70
Rice	-930.19		0.55	
Wheat flour	-118.37		0.07	
Gram	-74.99		0.04	
Bread (Normal)	-525.14		0.31	
Chicken	257.55	0.15		
Sea fish	-128.22		0.08	
Dried Fish	-587.04		0.35	
Canned fish	-82.85		0.05	
Milk powder	73.94	0.04		
Eggs	-114.75		0.07	
Coconuts	193.82	0.12		
Coconut oil	-175.09		0.10	
Fresh Fruits	533.94	0.32		
Vegetable	-241.43		0.14	
Dhal Mysoor	-569.30		0.34	
Big onions	-167.40		0.10	
Sugar	-249.65		0.15	
Dried chilies	-288.63		0.17	
Non Food	9532.31	7.23	1.56	5.67
Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	737.73	0.44		
Arrack	267.16	0.16		
Whiskey	120.52	0.07		
Beer	46.95	0.03		
Cigarettes	362.16	0.22		
Clothing and Footwear	1136.04	0.68		
Clothing	1011.65	0.60		
Footwear	124.39	0.07		
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	5610.48	3.34		
Maintenance/ Reconstruction	-1029.14		0.61	
Water bills	1684.90	1.00		
Electricity bill	6170.18	3.67		
L. P. Gas	-1393.85		0.83	
Kerosene oil	185.56	0.11		
Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	341.80	0.20		
Health	623.62	0.37		
Purchase of medical/ pharmacy products	256.15	0.15		
Transport	-2618.04		1.56	
Petrol	-2458.48		1.46	
Diesel	-370.50		0.22	
Communication	657.42	0.39		
Recreation and Culture	633.93	0.38		
Education	906.32	0.54		
Restaurant and hotels	830.71	0.49		
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	672.31	0.40		
All Items	6681.70	8.07	4.09	3.98

*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

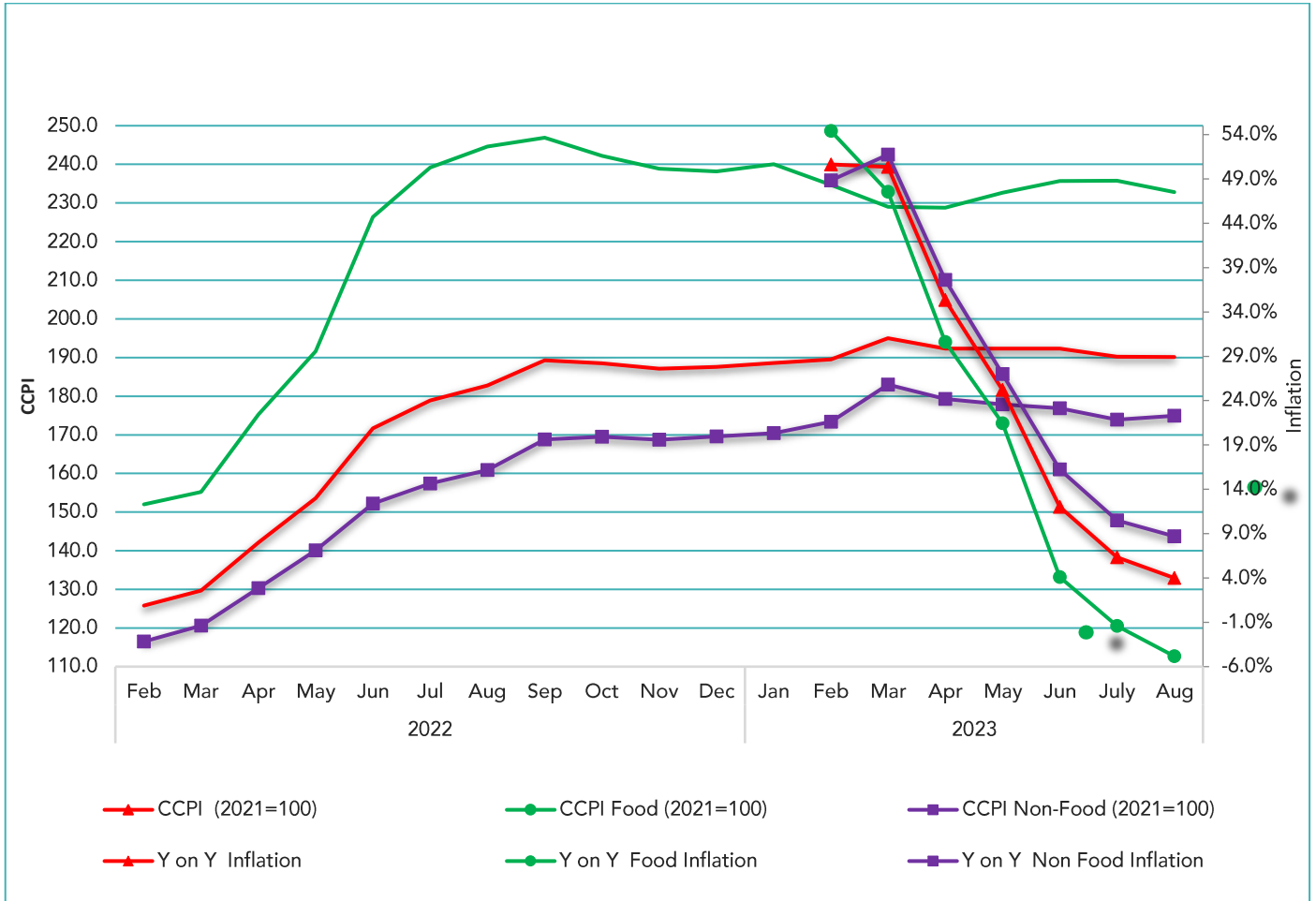


Table 05: Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index August 2022, July & August 2023


Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2022 Aug.	2023 Jul.	2023 Aug.	Aug. 23/ Aug. 22	Aug. 23 / Jul. 23
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	245.46	157.82	161.50	-34.21	2.33
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	221.26	192.45	195.50	-11.64	1.59
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	226.86	199.52	200.88	-11.45	0.68
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	257.14	214.57	213.87	-16.83	-0.32
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	232.58	226.56	228.91	-1.58	1.04
6. Cowpea	Kg	752.49	880.83	1011.21	34.38	14.80
7.Green Grams	Kg	1011.54	1205.01	1118.75	10.60	-7.16
8. Coconut	Each	90.64	102.38	99.66	9.94	-2.66
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	527.18	456.43	449.58	-14.72	-1.50
10.Chicken	Kg	1293.48	1417.38	1405.63	8.67	-0.83
11. Eggs	Each	55.22	55.13	49.32	-10.67	-10.53
12. Red Onion	Kg	428.72	507.23	478.88	11.70	-5.59
13. Big Onion	Kg	193.95	140.89	146.57	-24.43	4.03
14. Potatoes	Kg	315.63	306.74	308.08	-2.39	0.44
15. Garlic	Kg	666.08	641.50	643.78	-3.35	0.36
16. Dried Chilies	Kg	1934.76	1304.46	1323.15	-31.61	1.43
17. Green Chilies	Kg	742.61	999.61	703.42	-5.28	-29.63
18. Sugar	Kg	321.20	241.26	253.71	-21.01	5.16
19. Pepper	Kg	2734.66	2548.83	2608.39	-4.62	2.34
Vegetables-						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	229.18	305.16	309.54	35.06	1.44
21. Carrot	Kg	415.72	499.99	522.49	25.68	4.50
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	415.17	404.19	323.95	-21.97	-19.85
23. Tomatoes	Kg	471.52	496.38	341.49	-27.58	-31.20
24. Capsicum	Kg	832.69	573.24	514.39	-38.23	-10.27
25. Beetroot	Kg	314.63	472.57	323.07	2.68	-31.63
26. Beans	Kg	581.63	614.93	590.07	1.45	-4.04
Fruits						
27. Banana	Kg	210.73	293.98	310.18	47.19	5.51
28. Papaw	Kg	263.36	227.05	235.49	-10.58	3.72
29. Mangoes	Each	166.44	145.49	303.68	82.46	108.74
Fresh Fish –						
30. Seer	Kg	3666.66	3916.44	3915.11	6.78	-0.03
31.Talapath	Kg	2757.67	3098.92	3076.25	11.55	-0.73
32.Paraw	Kg	2678.62	2800.01	2798.77	4.49	-0.04
Dried Fish -						
33.Katta	Kg	3062.14	2480.42	2462.45	-19.58	-0.72
34. Sprats	Kg	1937.95	1285.13	1270.20	-34.46	-1.16
Fuel -						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	87.00	237.61	228.86	163.05	-3.68
36. Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	450.00	326.21	342.29	-23.94	4.93
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	433.21	308.36	306.57	-29.23	-0.58
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	5271.84	3237.64	3159.00	-40.08	-2.43
Litro	12.5kg	4795.79	3047.57	2982.00	-37.82	-2.15
Laughs	12.5kg	6700.00	3807.86	3690.00	-44.93	-3.10



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