



WEB RELEASE

THE COLOMBO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (Base Year 2013) – JULY 2020 DEPARTMENT OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

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July 31, 2020

1. Introduction

The Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) is the authorized agency to compile Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI). The base year used for compilation of CCPI from June 2011 to December 2016 was the year 2006/07. Following internationally accepted guidelines, it has been arranged to revise the base year from 2006/07=100 to 2013=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 2013=100) will be released monthly commencing from January 2017 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. Prices for items in the Colombo Consumer Price Index are collected from 14 selected centers located in Colombo namely Pettah, Maradana, Wellawatta, Dematagoda, Grandpass, Borella, Kirulapone, Dehiwala, Mt.Lavinia, Kotte, Nugegoda, Kolonnawa, Rathmalana, and Narahenpita and Rathmalana dedicated economic centers. Prices are collected weekly from the outlets located within each of the above market areas including Lak Sathosa and a supermarket. The consumer basket includes 392 items, which represent the typical urban household consumption expenditure. The CPI weights are derived from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) 2012/13.

For more details on the revision of base year, please click here: [Technical Note on Base Year Revision](#)

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 (%)		
	July 2019	June 2020	July 2020	July 2019	June 2020	July 2020	July 2019	June 2020	July 2020
All Items	130.0	135.3	135.4	-144.20	661.32	71.93	-0.18	0.82	0.09
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	133.5	147.9	148.0	-169.55	641.60	14.96	-0.22	0.79	0.02
Non Food	128.6	130.4	130.5	25.35	19.72	56.97	0.03	0.02	0.07
Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	218.4	219.9	219.2	-6.84	-9.77	-4.78	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Clothing and Foot Wear	145.9	152.5	153.7	11.05	19.49	15.69	0.01	0.02	0.02
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	115.7	117.8	117.7	15.90	0.00	-26.99	0.02	0.00	-0.03
Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	135.5	133.7	133.2	-1.60	-22.67	-7.54	0.00	-0.03	-0.01
Health	177.8	175.7	178.1	8.01	19.51	63.52	0.01	0.02	0.08
Transport	113.5	116.7	117.0	-7.71	14.48	15.78	-0.01	0.02	0.02
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	146.2	147.8	148.0	6.55	-4.34	4.49	0.01	-0.01	0.01
Other	138.3	139.3	139.2	0.00	3.02	-3.19	0.00	0.00	0.00

*Note : There are 12 main groups of the market basket. Significant changes in July 2020 were noted in eight main groups, details on which are given in Table2. *Percentages of items do not tally with overall percentage due to rounding off.

2. Variations in Colombo Consumer Price Index

Month on month changes in the Colombo Consumer Price Index is briefly described below.

2.1 Month on Month (M on M) Change of CCPI:

The CCPI for all items for the month of July 2020 was 135.4 and it recorded an increase of 0.1 index points that is 0.09 percentage points compared to the month of June 2020 for which the index was 135.3. This represents an increase of expenditure value by Rs.71.93 in the “Market Basket”

2.1.1 Contribution to M on M Changes:

Contributions to the change in CCPI from June 2020 to July 2020 were given in Table 2. The month on month change was contributed by increases of Food items by 0.02% and Non Food items by 0.07% respectively.

2.1.2 Contribution of Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages items: 0.02%

As shown in Table 02, increases in value change were reported for Turmeric powder (0.11%), Fresh Fruits (0.07%), Potatoes (0.07%), Eggs (0.04%), Rice Flour (0.02%), Papadam (0.02%), Biscuits (0.02%), Green Chilies (0.02%), Canned Fish (0.01%), Margarine (0.01%), Noodles (0.01%), Green Gram (0.01%), Chicken (0.01%), Coconut (0.01%), Jak madulu(0.01%), Juggery (0.01%) and Ginger (0.01%).

While decreases in value change were reported for Vegetables (0.07%), Red Onions (0.07%), Fresh Fish (0.06%), Chili Powder (0.04%), Limes (0.04%), Dried Fish (0.03%), Garlic (0.03%), Coconut Oil (0.02%), Gram (0.01%), Beef (0.01%), Dhal Mysoor (0.01%), Big Onions (0.01%), Pepper (0.01%), Curry Powder (0.01%) and Tea dust/Leaves (0.01%).

2.1.3 Contribution of Non Food items: 0.07%

Among Non-Food groups, increases in value change were reported for the groups of ‘Health’ (0.08%), ‘Clothing and Footwear’ (0.02%), ‘Transport’ (0.02%) and ‘Miscellaneous Goods and Services’ (0.01%).

While decreases in value change were reported in the groups of ‘Housing Water Electricity Gas and other Fuels’ (0.03%), ‘Alcoholic Beverage Tobacco and Narcotic’ (0.01%) and ‘Furnishing Household Equipment and routine Household Maintenance’ (0.01%).

However, an insignificant value change was reported for the group of ‘Recreation and Culture’ and all other groups remained unchanged during the period.

Table 2: Contribution to the change in CCPI from June 2020 to July 2020(Base 2013=100)

Sub Group/Commodity		Value Change			
		Rs.Cts.	% change		
			Increase	Decrease	Net effect
Food		14.96	0.44	0.43	0.02
1	Rice flour	17.85	0.02		
2	Green gram	5.80	0.01		
3	Gram	-5.12		0.01	
4	Biscuits	13.92	0.02		
5	Noodles	9.53	0.01		
6	Chicken	5.07	0.01		
7	Beef	-9.71		0.01	
8	Fresh Fish	-50.58		0.06	
9	Dried Fish	-26.80		0.03	
10	Canned fish	11.99	0.01		
11	Eggs	30.87	0.04		
12	Coconuts	4.23	0.01		
13	Margarine	10.53	0.01		
14	Coconut oil	-15.80		0.02	
15	Fresh Fruits	60.49	0.07		
	<i>Banana</i>	96.21	0.12		
	<i>Papaw</i>	-41.70		0.05	
	<i>Oranges</i>	6.14	0.01		
16	Vegetables	-57.17		0.07	
17	Potatoes	55.07	0.07		
18	Jak madulu	5.22	0.01		
19	Dhal - Mysoor	-10.66		0.01	
20	Red onions	-53.21		0.07	
21	Big onions	-8.72		0.01	
22	Garlic	-20.80		0.03	
23	Green chilies	13.47	0.02		
24	Papadam	16.12	0.02		
25	Juggery	4.60	0.01		
26	Chili powder	-29.29		0.04	
27	Pepper	-7.99		0.01	
28	Curry powder	-5.51		0.01	
29	Turmeric powder	93.42	0.11		
30	Limes	-34.54		0.04	
31	Ginger	4.44	0.01		
32	Tea dust/ leaves	-7.98		0.01	
33	Others	-3.78		0.00	
Non Food		56.97	0.12	0.05	0.07
34	Alcoholic beverages Tobacco and Narcotic	-4.78		0.01	
	<i>Beetle leaves</i>	-9.40		0.01	
35	Clothing and Foot Wear	15.69	0.02		
36	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	-26.99		0.03	
	<i>Maintenance/ Reconstruction</i>	-26.99		0.03	
37	Furnishing Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	-7.54		0.01	
38	Health	63.52	0.08		
	<i>Purchase of medical/ pharmacy products</i>	7.44	0.01		
	<i>Payments to private hospitals/ nursing homes</i>	56.08	0.07		
39	Transport	15.78	0.02		
	<i>Tyres, tubes and spare parts</i>	12.37	0.02		
40	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.49	0.01		
41	Others	-3.19		0.00	
	All Items	71.93	0.56	0.47	0.09

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

3. 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: 2013=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.
2019	July	130.0	-0.2	3.3	4.0	133.5	-0.7	-2.6	-0.3	128.6	0.0	5.9	5.9
	August	130.1	0.1	3.4	3.8	132.1	-1.0	-2.8	-1.2	129.3	0.5	6.2	6.0
	September	131.1	0.8	5.0	3.9	135.3	2.4	3.0	-1.1	129.4	0.1	5.7	6.0
	October	131.3	0.2	5.4	4.0	137.4	1.6	6.8	-0.4	128.9	-0.4	4.8	6.0
	November	131.7	0.3	4.4	4.1	138.7	0.9	4.6	0.1	128.9	0.0	4.2	5.9
	December	132.4	0.5	4.8	4.3	142.0	2.4	6.3	0.8	128.7	-0.2	4.3	5.8
2020	January	134.6	1.7	5.7	4.5	146.5	3.2	12.4	2.0	129.9	0.9	2.9	5.5
	February	134.6	0.0	6.2	4.6	146.2	-0.2	14.7	3.3	130.1	0.2	2.8	5.2
	March	133.4	-0.9	5.4	4.7	141.6	-3.1	12.8	4.4	130.2	0.1	2.5	4.9
	April	133.6	0.1	5.2	4.8	142.2	0.4	13.2	5.5	130.2	0.0	2.1	4.5
	May	134.2	0.4	4.0	4.7	144.1	1.3	9.9	6.3	130.3	0.1	1.6	4.1
	June	135.3	0.8	3.9	4.7	147.9	2.6	10.0	7.2	130.4	0.1	1.4	3.7
	July	135.4	0.1	4.2	4.8	148.0	0.1	10.9	8.4	130.5	0.1	1.5	3.3

3.1 Year on Year (Year on Year) Inflation

The Y-On-Y inflation as measured by CCPI is 4.2% in July 2020 and inflation calculated for June 2020 was 3.9% (Table 3). Year on Year inflation of Food Group has increased from 10.0% in June 2020 to 10.9% in July 2020 while that of Non-food Group has increased from 1.4% in June 2020 to 1.5% in July 2020.

3.2 Contribution to Y on Y inflation:

For the month of July 2020, on year-to-year basis, contribution to inflation by food commodities was 3.15%.

The contribution of Non Food items was 1.03%. This was mainly due to increases in value change in groups of 'Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels' (0.48%), 'Education' (0.36%), 'Transport' (0.29%), 'Clothing and Footwear' (0.14%), 'Restaurants & Hotels' (0.08%), 'Miscellaneous Goods and Services' (0.05%), 'Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco and Narcotics' (0.01%), 'Health' (0.01%), and decrease in value change was reported for the groups of 'Communication' (0.32%), 'Furnishing Household Equipment and routine Household Maintenance' (0.04%) and 'Recreation and Culture' (0.01%).

3.3 Moving Average Inflation

The moving average inflation rate for the month of July 2020 was 4.8%. The corresponding rate for the month of June 2020 was 4.7%.

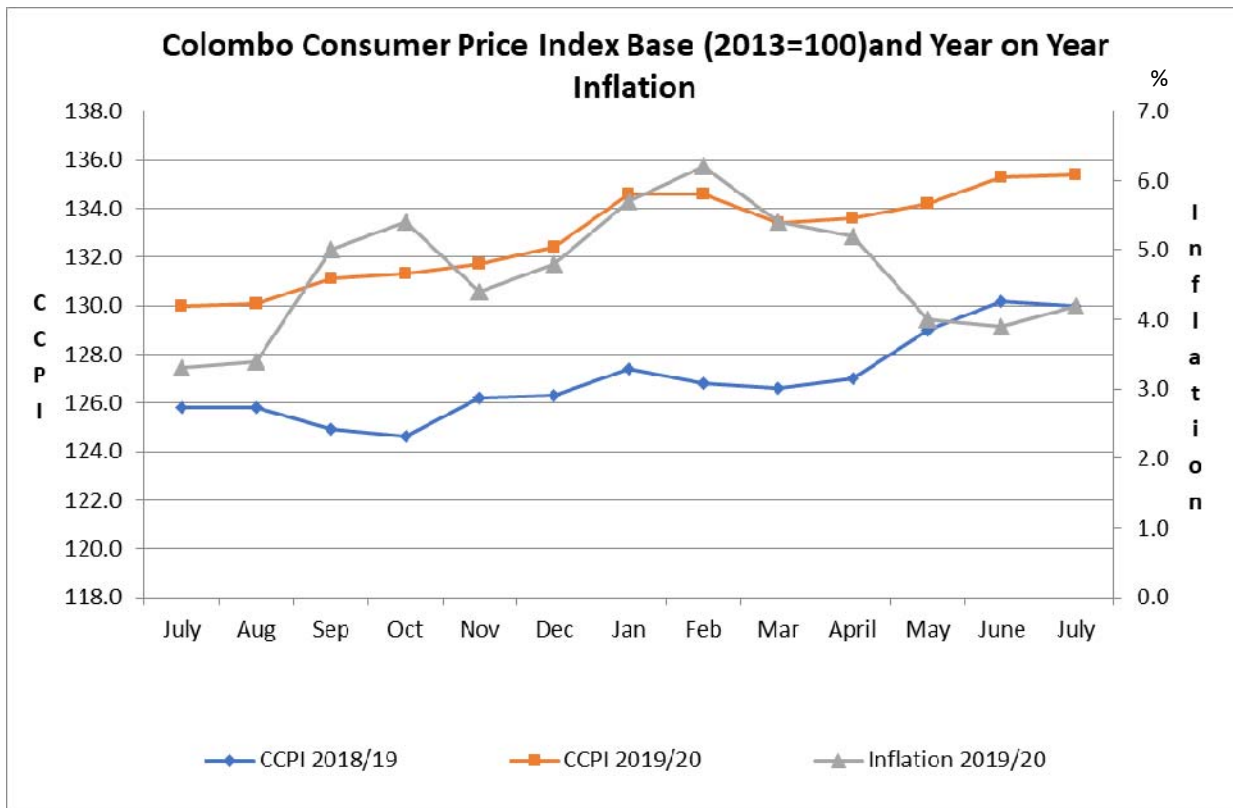


Table 4: Monthly average open market retail prices of selected items of Colombo Consumer Price Index July 2019, June & July 2020

Item	Unit	Retail Prices (Rs. Cts)			Retail Price Changes (%)	
		2019 July	2020 June	2020 July	July 20/ July 19	July 20 / June20
1. Rice– Kekulu – Red	Kg	78.40	98.26	98.24	25.31	-0.02
2. Rice– Kekulu – White	Kg	86.04	98.33	98.29	14.24	-0.04
3. Rice –Nadu - White	Kg	89.85	101.68	100.85	12.24	-0.82
4. Rice –Nadu - Red	Kg	91.11	105.09	107.28	17.75	2.09
5. Rice– Samba	Kg	97.41	102.98	103.13	5.88	0.15
6. Cowpea	Kg	289.47	359.53	384.12	32.70	6.84
7.Green Grams	Kg	280.35	313.03	340.89	21.60	8.90
8. Coconut	Each	46.88	65.29	65.45	39.63	0.25
9. Coconut Oil	750ml	254.82	384.83	372.42	46.15	-3.22
10.Chicken	Kg	510.62	513.78	516.14	1.08	0.46
11. Eggs	Each	19.20	18.17	20.56	7.08	13.16
12. Red Onion	Kg	225.78	365.87	277.20	22.77	-24.24
13. Big Onion	Kg	121.05	91.62	88.31	-27.05	-3.62
14. Potatoes	Kg	179.54	178.54	201.16	12.04	12.67
15. Garlic	Kg	386.06	394.61	305.71	-20.81	-22.53
16. Dried Chillies	Kg	355.36	573.21	552.98	55.61	-3.53
17. Green Chillies	Kg	625.37	327.95	378.54	-39.47	15.42
18. Sugar	Kg	106.19	135.71	136.00	28.07	0.21
19. Pepper	Kg	1435.05	1413.06	1358.17	-5.36	-3.88
Vegetables-						
20. Ash Plantain	Kg	148.70	135.79	158.06	6.30	16.40
21. Carrot	Kg	193.94	202.20	190.08	-1.99	-6.00
22. Snake Gourd	Kg	165.63	196.92	168.40	1.67	-14.49
23. Tomatoes	Kg	118.65	179.70	188.89	59.20	5.12
24. Capsicum	Kg	293.53	236.61	300.07	2.23	26.82
25. Beetroot	Kg	153.22	152.70	175.03	14.24	14.62
26. Beans	Kg	228.22	259.49	251.71	10.29	-3.00
Fruits						
27. Banana	Kg	141.66	148.53	166.60	-2.57	25.77
28. Papaw	Kg	121.63	132.88	113.18	-6.95	-14.83
29. Mangoes	Each	77.36	57.99	54.64	-29.38	-5.78
Fresh Fish –						
30. Seer	Kg	1846.44	1872.09	1865.81	1.05	-0.34
31.Talapath	Kg	1204.59	1300.74	1328.11	10.25	2.10
32.Paraw	Kg	1088.76	1235.43	1266.42	16.32	2.51
Dried Fish -						
33.Katta	Kg	1474.61	1538.65	1506.45	2.16	-2.09
34. Sprats	Kg	748.39	760.64	705.65	-5.71	-7.23
Fuel -						
35. Kerosene Oil	Lt	70.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
36 .Petrol (CPC & IOC)	Lt	141.61	137.00	137.00	-3.25	0.00
37. Diesel (CPC & IOC)	Lt	104.00	104.00	104.00	0.00	0.00
38. Gas- Avg.	12.5kg	1733.00	1493.00	1493.00	-13.85	0.00
Litro	12.5kg	1733.00	1493.00	1493.00	-3.47	-9.46
Laughs	12.5kg	1733.00	1493.00	1493.00	1.67	-14.49