



Issued By Statistics Department

Date 2021.03.22

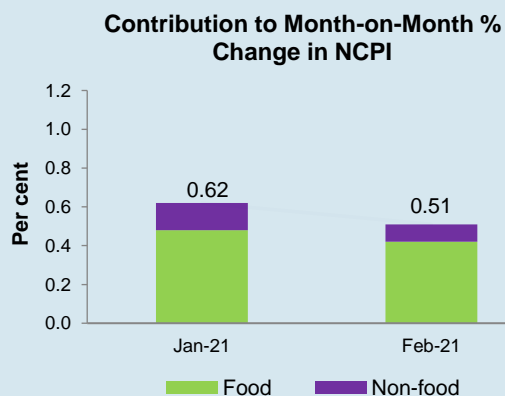
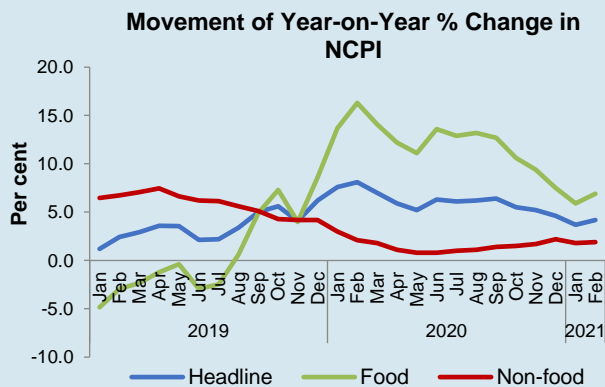
NCPI based Inflation increased in February 2021

Headline Inflation

Year-on-year inflation : 4.2%
 Annual Average inflation : 5.5%
 Monthly Change : 0.51%

Core Inflation

Year-on-year inflation : 4.1%
 Annual Average inflation : 4.2%
 Monthly Change : 0.2%



Headline inflation as measured by the year-on-year (Y-o-Y) change in the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI, 2013=100)¹ increased to 4.2 per cent in February 2021 from 3.7 per cent in January 2021. This was mainly driven by the monthly increase in prices of items in the Food category. Accordingly, Food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 6.9 per cent in February 2021 from 5.9 per cent in January 2021. Further, Non-Food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased marginally to 1.9 per cent in February 2021 from 1.8 per cent in January 2021.

The change in the NCPI measured on an annual average basis decreased to 5.5 per cent in February 2021 from 5.8 per cent in January 2021.

Monthly change of NCPI recorded at 0.51 per cent in February 2021 mainly due to price increases observed in items of Food category. Moreover, monthly changes of Food and Non-food categories recorded at 0.42 per cent and 0.09 per cent, respectively in February 2021. Accordingly, within the Food category, increases were observed mainly in the prices of vegetables, green chilli, coconut and rice during February 2021. However, prices of potato and big onion

recorded declines during the month.

Further, year-on-year core inflation decreased marginally to 4.1 per cent in February 2021 from 4.2 per cent in January 2021, while annual average core inflation remained unchanged at 4.2 per cent in February 2021.

¹The National Consumer Price Index (NCPI, 2013=100) is compiled by the Department of Census and Statistics.

Data Annexure:

Table 1: Movements of the NCPI

Base: 2013 = 100

Year	Month	Index Number		Monthly Percentage Change		Year-on-Year Percentage Change		Annual Average Percentage Change	
		NCPI	NCPI (Core)	NCPI	NCPI (Core)	NCPI	NCPI (Core)	NCPI	NCPI (Core)
2019	January	127.3	130.2	0.2	2.0	1.2	5.1	1.8	2.7
	February	126.7	131.3	-0.5	0.8	2.4	5.5	1.7	3.0
	March	126.4	131.8	-0.2	0.4	2.9	5.8	1.7	3.3
	April	127.3	132.6	0.7	0.6	3.6	6.3	1.9	3.7
	May	128.7	133.0	1.1	0.3	3.5	6.3	2.0	4.0
	June	129.2	133.0	0.4	0.0	2.1	6.1	2.0	4.4
	July	129.4	133.4	0.2	0.3	2.2	6.1	1.9	4.7
	August	129.7	133.7	0.2	0.2	3.4	5.9	2.0	5.0
	September	130.6	134.0	0.7	0.2	5.0	5.6	2.3	5.2
	October	131.9	134.4	1.0	0.3	5.6	5.6	2.8	5.4
	November	132.9	134.6	0.8	0.1	4.1	5.5	3.0	5.6
	December	135.0	134.2	1.6	-0.3	6.2	5.2	3.5	5.7
2020	January	137.0	135.3	1.5	0.8	7.6	3.9	4.1	5.6
	February	137.0	135.8	0.0	0.4	8.1	3.4	4.5	5.5
	March	135.2	136.0	-1.3	0.1	7.0	3.2	4.9	5.2
	April	134.8	136.9	-0.3	0.7	5.9	3.2	5.1	5.0
	May	135.4	137.9	0.4	0.7	5.2	3.7	5.2	4.8
	June	137.3	138.9	1.4	0.7	6.3	4.4	5.6	4.6
	July	137.3	139.4	0.0	0.4	6.1	4.5	5.9	4.5
	August	137.8	139.9	0.4	0.4	6.2	4.6	6.1	4.4
	September	138.9	140.4	0.8	0.4	6.4	4.8	6.2	4.3
	October	139.1	140.5	0.1	0.1	5.5	4.5	6.2	4.2
	November	139.8	140.6	0.5	0.1	5.2	4.5	6.3	4.2
	December	141.2	140.5	1.0	-0.1	4.6	4.7	6.2	4.1
2021	January	142.1	141.0	0.6	0.4	3.7	4.2	5.8	4.2
	February	142.8	141.3	0.5	0.2	4.2	4.1	5.5	4.2

Source: Department of Census and Statistics