

PRESS RELEASE

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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

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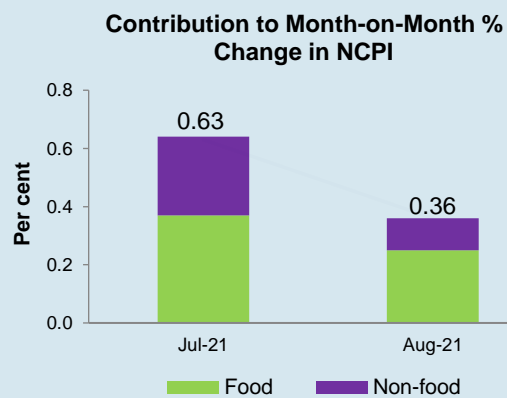
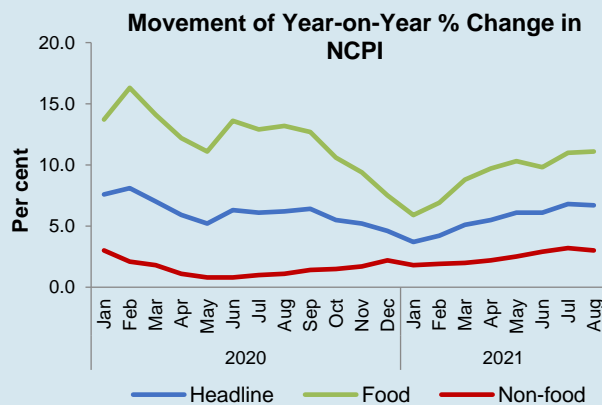
NCPI based Inflation decreased in August 2021.

Headline Inflation

Year-on-year inflation : 6.7%
Annual Average inflation : 5.5%
Monthly Change : 0.36%

Core Inflation

Year-on-year inflation : 4.7%
Annual Average inflation : 4.4%
Monthly Change : 0.6%



Headline inflation, as measured by the year-on-year (Y-o-Y) change in the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI, 2013=100)¹, decreased marginally to 6.7 per cent in August 2021 from 6.8 per cent in July 2021. This decline was entirely due to the statistical effect of the high base prevailed in August 2020. Meanwhile, Food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased marginally to 11.1 per cent in August 2021 from 11.0 per cent in July 2021, while Non-Food inflation (Y-o-Y) decreased to 3.0 per cent in August 2021 from 3.2 per cent in July 2021.

The NCPI, measured on an annual average basis, increased marginally to 5.5 per cent in August 2021 from at 5.4 per cent in July 2021.

Monthly change of NCPI recorded at 0.36 per cent in August 2021 due to increases observed in prices of items in both Food and Non-food categories. Moreover, monthly changes of Food and Non-food categories recorded at 0.25 per cent and 0.11 per cent, respectively. Accordingly, within the Food category, prices of sugar, potatoes and fresh fish increased whereas, prices of rice, coconut oil and coconut recorded decreases. Moreover, prices of items in the Non-Food category recorded an increase mainly due to price increases observed in the Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (Arecanuts) and Health

(Payments to private hospitals/nursing homes room charges) sub-categories during the month.

Further, year-on-year core inflation increased to 4.7 per cent in August 2021 from 4.4 per cent July 2021, while annual average core inflation remained unchanged for the fifth consecutive month at 4.4 per cent in August 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
	March	142.1	141.8	-0.5	0.4	5.1	4.3	5.3	4.3
	April	142.2	142.5	0.1	0.5	5.5	4.1	5.3	4.4
	May	143.6	143.7	1.0	0.8	6.1	4.2	5.4	4.4
	June	145.7	144.6	1.5	0.6	6.1	4.1	5.4	4.4
	July	146.6	145.6	0.6	0.7	6.8	4.4	5.4	4.4
	August	147.1	146.5	0.3	0.6	6.7	4.7	5.5	4.4

Source: Department of Census and Statistics