

Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Statistics
Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

PRESS RELEASE ON INFLATION RATE

FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 2018 WITH BASE 2007-08=100

1. SUMMARY OF INFLATION RATES

	C P I Change
Inflation Rate March, 2018 over February, 2018 (Previous month)	0.31%
Inflation Rate, March, 2018 over March, 2017 (Corresponding month)	3.25%
Average Inflation Rate July- Mar (2017-18) over July- Mar (2016-17)	3.78%

2. Detail Description:

Pakistan Bureau of Statistics collects the retail and the wholesale prices and computes the Consumer Price Index (CPI), Wholesale Price Index (WPI) on monthly basis and Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI) on weekly basis. In March, 2018 the CPI increased by 0.31%, WPI increased by 0.25% while SPI decreased by 0.60% respectively.

Consumer Price Index by Group of Commodities and Services (Base 2007-08)

Major Commodity Group	Group Weight (%)	INDICES			% Change in March, 2018 over	
		Mar, 2018	Feb, 2018	Mar, 2017	Feb, 2018	Mar, 2017
General	100.00	220.25	219.58	213.32	0.31	3.25
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	34.83	228.39	229.23	226.16	-0.37	0.99
Non-perishable food items	29.84	231.03	230.60	225.68	0.19	2.37
Perishable food items	4.99	212.62	221.02	229.04	-3.80	-7.17
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	1.41	316.60	313.39	380.92	1.02	-16.89
Clothing & Footwear	7.57	245.80	245.03	234.46	0.31	4.84
Housing Water, Elec, Gas& Other Fuels	29.41	202.71	202.62	194.44	0.04	4.25
Furnishing & Household Equipment Maintenance	4.21	234.67	233.50	224.59	0.50	4.49
Health	2.19	221.26	220.58	211.21	0.31	4.76
Transport	7.20	186.98	184.47	175.69	1.36	6.43
Communication	3.22	133.37	133.28	132.69	0.07	0.51
Recreation & Culture	2.02	200.38	198.62	197.14	0.89	1.64
Education	3.94	275.17	262.35	233.98	4.89	17.60
Restaurant & hotel	1.23	287.84	287.21	271.02	0.22	6.21
Miscellaneous goods & services	2.76	256.35	255.21	242.19	0.45	5.85

Main contributors to month-on-month and year-on-year changes are given below:

Month-on-month: *Top few items which varied from previous month i.e. March, 2018 are given below:-*

Increased: Betel Nuts (26.13%), Newspapers (15.38%), Private School Fee (9.50%), Toyota Cars (6.53%), Car Suzuki (6.46%), Kerosene Oil (5.42%), Tapal Danedar Tea (4.94%), Garlic (4.55%), Chicken (4.39%), Petrol (4.21%), Bus Fare (3.68%), Diesel (2.72%), Plumber Wage Rate (2.60%) and Iron Bar (2.25%).

Decreased: Tomatoes (20.06%), Onion (19.16%), Green Chillies (16.38%), Potatoes (8.53%), Gas Cylinder (8.32%), Eggs (7.26%), Gram whole (2.91%), Spinach (2.27%), Pulse Gram (2.11%), Pulse Masoor (1.81%), Pulse Mash (1.8%) and Sugar (1.03%).

Year-on-Year: *Top few items which varied from previous year i.e. February, 2017 are given below:-*

Increased: Betel Nuts (581.60%), Govt. University Fee (37.72%), Kerosene Oil (30.59%), Bus Fare (26.12%), Petrol (20.64%), Diesel (20.06%), Private School Fee (19.89%), Newspapers (18.76%), Car Suzuki (15.72%), Iron Bar (14.76%), Mutton (11.34%) and Toyota Cars (11.21%).

Decreased: Tomatoes (54.33%), Garlic (40.42%), Cigarettes (29.65%), Pulse Mash (22.08%), Sugar (14.91%), Potatoes (14.86%), Pulse Masoor (13.62%), Pulse Gram (11.86%), Pulse Moong (11.42%), Cement (2.65%) and Wheat Flour (1.66%).

Average Inflation Rate

The Consumer Price Index of July-March, 2017-18 has increased by 3.78% over July-March, 2016-17 as per details given below:-

Groups	Group Weight	Indices		%Change
		Jul-Mar 2017-18	Jul-Mar 2016-17	
General	100.00	219.01	211.04	3.78
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	34.83	232.50	225.55	3.08
<i>Non-perishable food items</i>	29.84	228.46	224.42	1.80
<i>Perishable food items</i>	4.99	256.63	232.34	10.45
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	1.41	308.16	370.65	-16.86
Clothing & Footwear	7.57	241.69	232.22	4.08
Housing, Water, Elec, Gas Fuels	29.41	200.83	191.66	4.79
Furnishing & Household Equipment Maintenance	4.21	230.77	223.18	3.40
Health	2.19	216.27	198.23	9.10
Transport	7.20	179.43	171.83	4.42
Communication	3.22	133.13	131.42	1.30
Recreation & Culture	2.02	197.61	196.38	0.62
Education	3.94	259.12	231.12	12.11
Restaurant & Hotels	1.23	283.76	267.56	6.05
Miscellaneous	2.76	252.03	238.38	5.73

Top few commodities which varied from previous year average i.e. July-Mar, 2016-17 are given below:-

Increased: Onion (90.17%), Tomatoes (15.98%), Rice (14.31%), Kerosene Oil (12.18%), Education (12.07%), Drugs & Medicines (11.41%), Motor Fuel (10.40%), Tea (9.35%), Potatoes (9.01%), Tailoring (7.78%), Meat (7.64%), Cleaning & Laundry (7.37%), Construction wage Rates (7.32%), Doctor (MBBS) Clinic Fee (7.20%), Chicken (6.92%), Personal Equipment (6.85%), Newspapers (5.07%), and Motor Vehicles (4.51%).

Decreased: Pulse Mash (25.70%), Pulse Gram (21.55%), Sugar (18.20%), Pulse Masoor (18.04%), Cigarettes (17.80%), Pulse Moong (17.35%), Besan (15.17%), Gur (7.69%), Gram Whole (4.27%), Fresh Vegetables (2.97%), Wheat Product (1.22%), Wheat Flour (1.20%), Wheat (1.04%) and Spices (0.40%).

Core inflation of CPI

i. Trimmed Core Inflation

During the month of March, 2018 over February, 2018, the trimmed core inflation has been observed as 4.1% while it was 4.5% during March, 2017.

ii. Non-Food & Non-Energy Core Inflation

During the month of March, 2018 over February, 2018, the Non-food & Non-energy core inflation has been observed as 5.8% while it was 5.3% during March, 2017.