

Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives
PAKISTAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

PRESS RELEASE ON CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) INFLATION
FOR THE MONTH OF March, 2020 [Base 2015-16=100]

Indicators	Base Year	
	2015-16	2007-08
Inflation Rate, March, 2020 over February, 2020 (Month on Month)	0.04	0.25
Inflation Rate, March, 2020 over March, 2019 (Year on Year)	10.24	10.74
Average Inflation Rate July- March (2019-20) over July- March (2018-19)	11.53	11.80

Analysis of Consumer Price Index (CPI) Base Year (2015-16)

2. The CPI on new base (2015-16) comprises of urban CPI and Rural CPI. The Urban CPI covers 35 cities and 356 consumer items. The Rural CPI covers 27 Rural Centers and 244 consumer items. In the new base year (2015-16) National CPI for 12 major groups is also computed by taking weighted average of Urban CPI and Rural CPI.

MONTHLY ANALYSIS (M.o.M)

March, 2020 over February, 2020

CPI National with base year (2015-16) for the month of March, 2020 increased by 0.04% over February 2020. The Urban CPI with base year (2015-16) recorded an increase of 0.13% while Rural CPI with base year (2015-16) recorded a decrease of 0.1%. (Details are in the Monthly Review). CPI with old base year (2007-08) recorded an increase of 0.25%.

Group	NATIONAL (Base 2015-16)				Base 2007-08			
	Weight (%)	INDICES		% Change	Weight (%)	INDICES		% Change
		Mar,2020	Feb, 2020			Mar,2020	Feb, 2020	
General	100.00	131.69	131.64	0.04	100.00	266.87	266.20	0.25
Food and non-alcoholic Beverages	34.58	132.18	132.10	0.07	34.83	279.62	278.49	0.41
<i>Non-perishable food items</i>	29.60	129.99	130.65	-0.51	29.84	277.47	277.89	-0.15
<i>Perishable food items</i>	4.99	145.20	140.66	3.23	4.99	292.47	282.09	3.68
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco	1.02	136.40	136.28	0.09	1.41	437.73	436.19	0.35
Clothing and footwear	8.60	132.72	130.68	1.57	7.57	294.06	290.35	1.28
Housing, water, Elec., Gas and other fuels	23.63	129.17	129.11	0.04	29.41	244.11	244.07	0.02
Furnishing and household equipment maintenance	4.10	127.88	127.02	0.67	4.21	283.41	282.25	0.41
Health	2.79	139.55	138.09	1.06	2.19	263.63	261.81	0.70
Transport	5.91	139.18	145.60	-4.41	7.20	235.66	240.36	-1.96
Communication	2.21	106.96	106.96	0.00	3.22	146.05	146.05	0.00
Recreation and culture	1.59	119.54	119.03	0.43	2.02	230.91	230.91	0.00
Education	3.79	142.40	142.11	0.20	3.94	309.82	306.95	0.94
Restaurants and hotels	6.92	130.63	129.86	0.59	1.23	341.53	340.23	0.38
Misc. goods and services	4.87	135.75	134.42	0.99	2.76	318.18	314.88	1.05

3. **Top few commodities which varied from previous month i.e. February, 2020 are given below:**

URBAN:

Increased: Onions(35.07%), Potatoes(10.93%), Fresh fruits(8.53%), Footwear(5.84%), Chicken (3.25%), Liquified Hydrocarbons(2.27%), Dental services(2.05%), Milk powder (1.86%), Mustard oil(1.7%), Eggs (1.62%), Condiments and Spices(1.58%), Personal Grooming Services(1.26%), Household equipments(1.22%), Butter(1.24%), Beans(1.18%), Gur(1.12%), Readymade garments(1.00%).Milk fresh (0.96%) and Meat(0.84%).

Decreased: Tomatoes(23.29%), Fish(9.25%), Wheat(8.43%), Fresh vegetables(7.78%), Motor fuel(6.17%), Transport services(5.45%) Pulse gram(5.13%), Pulse masoor(3.39%), Wheat flour (3.17%), Pulse mash(2.33%), Solid Fuel(1.13%) and Sugar(0.54%).

RURAL:

Increased: Onions(40.95%), Fresh fruits(8.04%), Potatoes(6.82%), Beans(3.77%) Footwear(2.93%), Medical Tests(2.7%), Mechanical Services(2.53%), Cotton Cloth(1.88%), Cleaning and Laundering(1.84%), Readymade Garments(1.59%), Construction Wage Rates(1.43%) and Vegetable ghee(1.05%).

Decreased: Tomatoes(36.43%), Wheat(7.39%), Motor Fuels(6.69%) Fresh Vegetables(5.64%), Pulse Gram(5.07%), Chicken(4.85%), Pulse Masoor(3.45%), Eggs(3.17%), Transport Services(3.43%), Gram Whole(2.58%), Wheat Flour(2.52%), Pulse Mash(2.05%) and Gur(1.02%).

YEARLY ANALYSIS (Y.o.Y)

March, 2020 over March, 2019

CPI National with base year (2015-16) for the month of March, 2020 increased by 10.24% over March, 2019. The Urban CPI with base year (2015-16) recorded an increase of 9.31% while Rural CPI with base year (2015-16) recorded an increase of 11.67%. (Details are in the Monthly Review). CPI with old base year (2007-08) recorded an increase of 10.74%.

Group	NATIONAL (Base 2015-16)				Base 2007-08			
	Weight (%)	INDICES		Change (%)	Weight (%)	INDICES		Change (%)
		Mar, 2020	Mar, 2019			Mar, 2020	Mar, 2019	
General	100.00	131.69	119.46	10.24	100.00	266.87	240.98	10.74
Food and non-alcoholic Beverages	34.58	132.18	115.25	14.69	34.83	279.62	247.17	13.13
<i>Non-perishable food items</i>	29.60	129.99	113.45	14.58	29.84	277.47	245.13	13.19
<i>Perishable food items</i>	4.99	145.20	125.94	15.29	4.99	292.47	259.40	12.75
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco	1.02	136.40	115.04	18.57	1.41	437.73	355.49	23.13
Clothing and footwear	8.60	132.72	119.60	10.97	7.57	294.06	263.53	11.59
Housing, water, Elec., Gas and other fuels	23.63	129.17	123.13	4.90	29.41	244.11	226.12	7.96
Furnishing and household equipment maintenance	4.10	127.88	116.10	10.14	4.21	283.41	256.99	10.28
Health	2.79	139.55	124.14	12.41	2.19	263.63	239.13	10.25
Transport	5.91	139.18	124.87	11.46	7.20	235.66	211.31	11.52
Communication	2.21	106.96	102.99	3.86	3.22	146.05	143.65	1.67
Recreation and culture	1.59	119.54	112.86	5.92	2.02	230.91	219.76	5.07
Education	3.79	142.40	136.25	4.51	3.94	309.82	292.01	6.10
Restaurants and hotels	6.92	130.63	120.22	8.66	1.23	341.53	306.47	11.44
Misc. goods and services	4.87	135.75	121.40	11.82	2.76	318.18	282.45	12.65

6. Top few commodities which varied from previous year i.e. March 2019 are given below:

URBAN:

Increased: Potatoes(107.51%), Onions(92.18%), Pulse moong (69.7%), Gas charges(54.84%), Pulse mash(47.19%), Butter(43.76%), Vegetable ghee(33.01%), Gur(32.97%), Sugar(30.86%), Condiments and Spices(27.02%), Cooking oil(26.73%), Beans(24.55%), Cigarettes (21.5%), Wheat(19.27%), Drugs and medicines(18.49%), Liquified Hydrocarbons(18.47%), Construction input items(17.6%), Mustard oil(17.42%), Pulse masoor(17.22%), Pulse gram(16.76%), Motor Fuel (16.33%), Wheat products(15.96%), Fresh vegetables(15.83%), Motor vehicles(15.37%), Milk powder (14.75%), Woolen cloth(14.41%), Meat(13.51%), Wheat flour (13.51%), Beverages(12.07%), Cotton cloth(11.82%), Footwear(11.55%), Motor vehicle accessories(11.26%) Household equipments (11.03%). Tea(9.59%) and Milk fresh (9.37%).

Decreased: Tomatoes (71.11%) Electricity charges (13.92%) and Fish (1.06%).

RURAL:

Increased: Potatoes(120.67%), Onions(100.9%), Pulse Moong(72.29%), Pulse Mash(49.43%), Condiments and Spices(34.04%), Vegetable ghee(32.79%), Sugar(31.36%), Water Supply(30.55%), Beans(29.91%), Cooking oil(29.6%), Gur(28.4%), Pulse Masoor(26.45%), Wheat(24.28%), Fresh Vegetables(20.61%), Cigarettes(19.87%), Pulse Gram(19.76%), Wheat Flour(18%), Mustard oil(16.15%), Cotton Cloth(16.53%), Motor Fuels(15.74%), Drugs and Medicines(15.08%), Liquified Hydrocarbons(15.06%), Cleaning and Laundering(13.73%), Motor Vehicles Accessories(13.38%), Dental Services(13.17%) and Solid Fuel(12.72%).

Decreased: Electricity Charges (13.92%), Motor Fuels(6.69%) and Transport Services(3.43%)

AVERAGE INFLATION RATE

7. CPI National with base year (2015-16) for the period July-March (2019-20) increased by 11.53% over July-March (2018-19). The Urban CPI with base year (2015-16) recorded an increase of 11.08% while Rural CPI with base year (2015-16) recorded an increase of 12.23%. (Details are in the Monthly Review). CPI with old base year (2007-08) recorded an increase of 11.80%.

Group	NATIONAL (Base 2015-16)				Base 2007-08			
	Weight (%)	INDICES		Change (%)	Weight (%)	INDICES		Change (%)
		Jul-Mar, 2019-20	Jul- Mar, 2018-19			Jul- Mar, 2019-20	Jul- Mar, 2018-19	
General	100.00	129.28	115.91	11.53	100.00	261.47	233.88	11.80
Food and non-alcoholic Beverages	34.58	128.67	110.56	16.39	34.83	272.77	238.99	14.13
<i>Non-perishable food items</i>	29.60	124.90	110.71	12.83	29.84	267.18	239.5	11.56
<i>Perishable food items</i>	4.99	151.05	109.67	37.73	4.99	306.16	235.88	29.79
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco	1.02	135.17	110.69	22.12	1.41	431.54	338.49	27.49
Clothing and footwear	8.60	127.98	116.99	9.39	7.57	283.6	258.55	9.69
Housing, water, Elec., Gas and other fuels	23.63	128.24	119.53	7.29	29.41	240.71	218.67	10.08
Furnishing and household equipment maintenance	4.10	124.68	112.55	10.77	4.21	275.91	248.26	11.14
Health	2.79	135.62	121.30	11.81	2.19	253.91	232.77	9.08
Transport	5.91	142.72	122.67	16.34	7.20	236.48	208.78	13.27
Communication	2.21	106.80	102.62	4.07	3.22	145.87	140.29	3.98
Recreation and culture	1.59	118.32	110.64	6.94	2.02	229.03	213.57	7.24
Education	3.79	141.74	133.29	6.33	3.94	304.79	287.53	6.00
Restaurants and hotels	6.92	126.62	118.54	6.81	1.23	328.65	299.34	9.79
Misc. goods and services	4.87	131.45	117.49	11.88	2.76	308.32	273.14	12.88

8. Top few commodities which varied from previous period average i.e. Jul-Mar, 2018-19 are given below:

URBAN:

Increased: Onions (107.67%), Garlic (105.80%), Peas (97.85%), Cardamom small (72.68%), Gas charges combined (72.63%), Pulse Moong (59.65%), Ginger (58.37%) and Potatoes (57.46%).

Decreased: Gram Whole (5.78%), Cement (4.51%), Lemon (3.72%) and eggs (2.33%).

RURAL:

Increased: Onions (112.12%), Garlic (102.60%), Peas (100.72%), Ginger (64.34%), Pulse Moong (55.40%) and Potatoes (51.46%).

Decreased: Lemon (7.65%), Cement (3.66%), Gram Whole (2.58%) and Eggs (2.20%).

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