

**Government of Pakistan  
Ministry of Statistics  
Pakistan Bureau of Statistics  
Islamabad**

\*\*\*\*\*

**PRESS RELEASE ON CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) INFLATION**

**FOR THE MONTH OF March, 2019 [Base 2007-08=100]**

**1. SUMMARY OF INFLATION RATES**

	<b><u>CPI Change (%)</u></b>
Inflation Rate, March, 2019 over February, 2019 (Previous month)	<b><u>1.42</u></b>
Inflation Rate, March, 2019 over March, 2018 (Corresponding month)	<b><u>9.41</u></b>
Average Inflation Rate July- March (2018-19) over July- March (2017-18)	<b><u>6.79</u></b>

**2. DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

Pakistan Bureau of Statistics collects the retail prices and computes the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for a basket of 487 items collected from 40 cities and 76 markets. For each item four (04) quotations are collected from each market on monthly basis. Wholesale Price Index (WPI), on monthly basis, is compiled from 21 markets and 21 cities for a basket of 463 items. Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI) is compiled on weekly basis for 53 items from 53 markets of 17 cities.

In March, 2019 the CPI increased by **1.42%**, WPI increased by **1.70%** while SPI increased by **1.57%** respectively.

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

Major Commodity Group	Group Weight (%)	I N D I C E S			% Change in Mar- 2019 over	
		Mar – 2019	Feb – 2019	Mar – 2018	Feb– 2019	Mar – 2018
<b>General</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>240.98</b>	<b>237.61</b>	<b>220.25</b>	<b>1.42</b>	<b>9.41</b>
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	34.83	247.17	239.59	228.39	3.16	8.22
Non-perishable food items	29.84	245.13	243.00	231.03	0.88	6.10
Perishable food items	4.99	259.40	219.23	212.62	18.32	22.00
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	1.41	355.49	354.79	316.59	0.20	12.29
Clothing & Footwear	7.57	263.53	261.82	245.80	0.65	7.21
Housing Water, Elec, Gas& Other Fuels	29.41	226.12	226.02	202.71	0.04	11.55
Furnishing & Household Equipment Maintenance	4.21	256.99	255.07	234.68	0.75	9.51
Health	2.19	239.13	237.68	221.25	0.61	8.08
Transport	7.20	211.31	209.05	186.98	1.08	13.01
Communication	3.22	143.65	143.64	133.37	0.01	7.71
Recreation & Culture	2.02	219.76	215.80	200.40	1.84	9.66
Education	3.94	292.01	289.13	275.17	1.00	6.12
Restaurant & hotel	1.23	306.47	303.57	287.84	0.96	6.47
Miscellaneous goods & services	2.76	282.45	280.40	256.36	0.73	10.18

**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. February, 2019 are given below:

**Decreased:** Train Fare (1<sup>st</sup> Sleeper 1-100km) (9.93%), Eggs Farm (6.32%), Potatoes (5.01%), Betel Nuts (3.37%), Georgette (2.82%), LPG Cylinder (1.44%), Gram Whole (Yellow) (1.01%), Bricks (1.00%), Ginger (0.58%), Gram Whole (Black) (0.29%), Cement Local (0.25%), Iron Bar (0.24%) and CNG (0.21%).

**Increased:** Chillies Green (141.73%), Onion (39.27%), Peas (27.54%), Kinno (22.34%), Train Fare (Economy 1-100km) (19.30%), Tomatoes (18.82%), Chicken (15.89%), Bananas (15.59%), Guava (14.77%), Air Fare Economy (13.41%), Pulse Moong (12.68%), Urdu Books B.A/BSc. (11.49%), Garlic (11.18%), Calpol Syrup (7.29%) and High Speed Diesel (4.45%).

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

**Decreased:** Betel Nuts (47.72%), Train Fare (1<sup>st</sup> Sleeper >500km) (21.11%), Potatoes (15.58%), Orange (15.37%), Gram Whole Yellow (12.54%), Train Fare (1<sup>st</sup> Sleeper 101-500km) (5.41%), Train Fare (A/C Sleeper >500km) (1.44%) and Chicken Farm (1.20%).

**Increased:** Tomatoes (315.30%), Train Fare Economy (1-100km) (201.47%), Chillies Green (151.70%), Gas (85.31%), Betnovate-N Ointment (62.78%), Peas (53.98%), Bus Fare outside City (47.67%), Cucumber (44.97%), Train Fare (1<sup>st</sup> Sleeper 1-100km) (42.18%), Calpol Syrup (40.80%), Cardamom (35.31%), Newspaper (33.33%), English Books B.A/BSc (31.39%), MBA Tuition Fee (27.73%), Chillies Powder Loose (27.65%), CNG (25.36%), Cars (24.32%), Pulse Moong (22.70%), Gold (21.53%), Sugar Refined (18.20%), Onion (15.85%), Iron Bar (14.54%), Cement Local (13.96%), Beef with Bone (13.88%), LPG Cylinder (13.48%), High Speed Diesel (13.13%) and Mutton (12.34%).

### **Average Inflation Rate**

The Consumer Price Index of July-March, 2018-19 has increased by 6.79% over July-March, 2017-18 as per details given below: -

Groups	Group Weight	INDICES		%Change
		Jul- Mar, 2018-19	Jul-Mar, 2017-18	
<b>General</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>233.88</b>	<b>219.01</b>	<b>6.79</b>
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages.	34.83	238.99	232.50	2.79
<i>Non-perishable food items</i>	29.84	239.5	228.46	4.83
<i>Perishable food items</i>	4.99	235.88	256.63	-8.09
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	1.41	338.49	308.16	9.84
Clothing & Footwear	7.57	258.55	241.69	6.98
Housing Water, Elec, Gas & Other Fuels	29.41	218.67	200.83	8.88
Furnishing & Household Equipment Maintenance	4.21	248.26	230.77	7.58
Health	2.19	232.77	216.26	7.63
Transport	7.2	208.79	179.43	16.36
Communication	3.22	140.29	133.13	5.38
Recreation & Culture	2.02	213.57	197.59	8.09
Education	3.94	287.53	259.12	10.96
Restaurant & hotel	1.23	299.34	283.76	5.49
Miscellaneous goods & services	2.76	273.14	252.02	8.38

Top few **commodities** which varied from previous year average i.e. **July-March, 2017-18** are given below:-

**Decreased:** Onions (23.20%), Potatoes (17.94%), Pulse Mash (12.56%), Gram Whole (6.66%), Pulse Masoor (4.01%), Besan (2.71%), Fresh Vegetables (0.50%) and Fresh Fruits (0.29%).

**Increased:** Gas (56.87%), Tomatoes (47.57%), Kerosene Oil (25.58%), Petrol (22.59%), Newspapers (20.61%), Transport Services (15.55%), Spices (13.42%) , Motor Vehicle (12.56%), Meat (12.30%), Construction Input Items (11.16%), Education (11.04%), Dry Fruits (10.97%), Stationery (10.04%), Construction Wage Rates (9.63%), Furniture (9.40%), Cigarettes (9.00%), Tea (8.90%), Rice (7.87%), Marriage Hall Charges (7.66%), House Rent (7.50%), Text Books (6.28%), Chicken (5.93%), Vegetable Ghee (4.82%), Sugar (4.13%), Milk Fresh (3.91%) and Electricity (2.83%).

### **Core inflation of CPI**

#### **Trimmed Core Inflation**

During the month of March, 2019 over March, 2018, the Year on Year increase in the Trimmed Core Inflation was observed at 7.9% whereas it was 4.1% during March, 2018 over March, 2017.

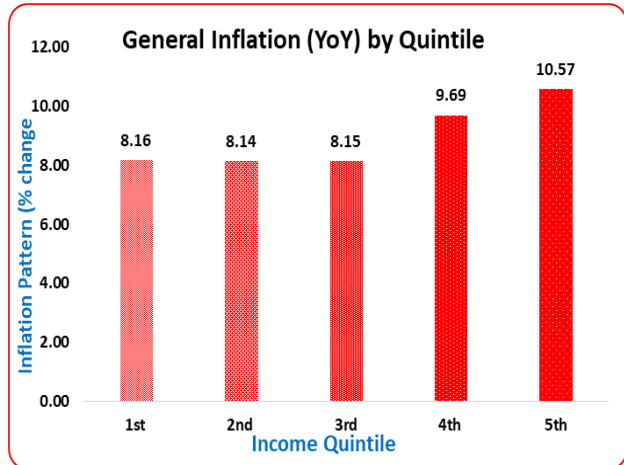
#### **Non-Food & Non-Energy Core Inflation**

During the month of March, 2019 over March, 2018, the Year on Year increase in the Non-food & Non-energy Core Inflation has been observed as 8.5% whereas it was 5.8% during March, 2018 over March, 2017.

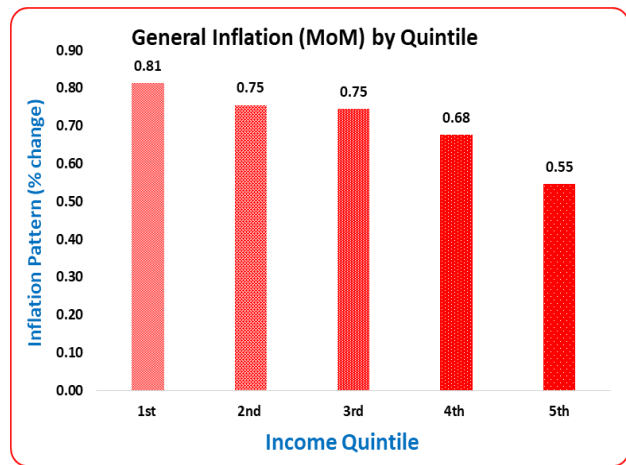
Month on Month (MoM) as well as Year on Year (YoY) Inflation increased in March, 2019 due to increase in the prices of Food Group particularly, increase in the prices of vegetables and pulses. However, Perishable Food items during July-Mar, 2018-19 recorded 8.09% decrease as compare to July-Mar, 2017-18.

The Income Quintile-wise (MoM and YoY) trend for the month of March, 2019 is graphically sketched in Figure 1 and Figure 2. Detailed CPI figures by Income Quintiles and Commodity Groups for the month of March, 2019 (MoM and YoY) is placed at **Annexure-C** in Monthly Review Report.

**Figure 1**  
MoM Quintile-wise Inflation Trend

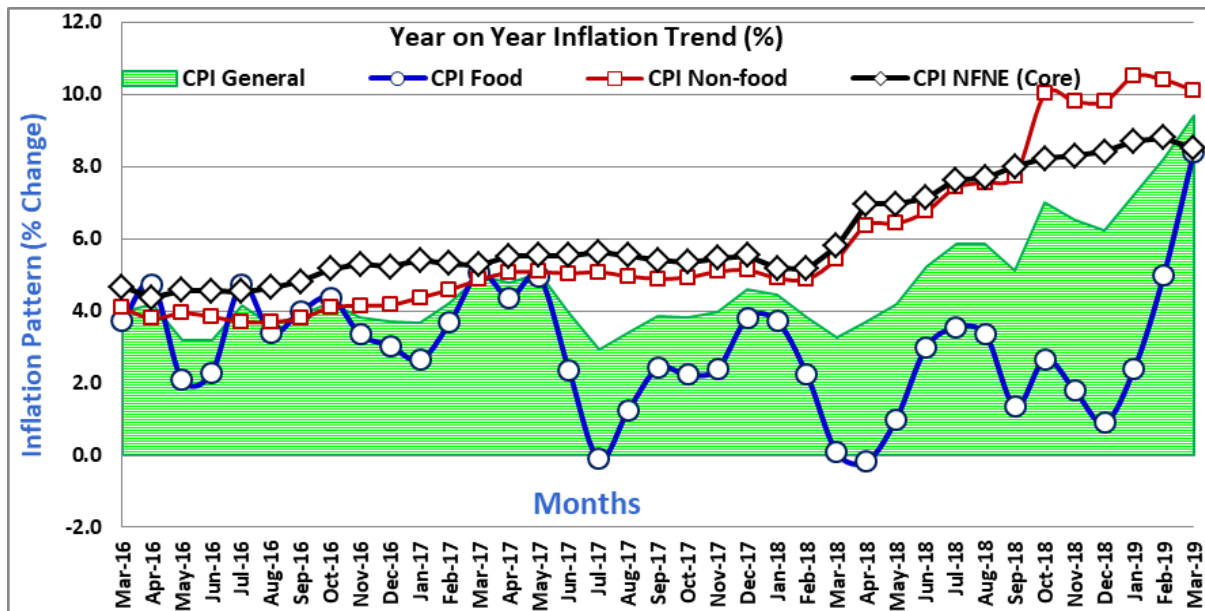


**Figure 2**  
YoY Quintile-wise Inflation Trend



The Figure 3 depicts history of Year-on-Year trend regarding General, Food, Non-Food and Core Inflation rate.

**Figure 3: YoY Historical Inflation Trend**



<http://www.pbs.gov.pk/cpi>

\*\*\*\*\*

**NAME OF CITIES AND IT'S MARKETS FOR CPI**

**COVERED IN 2007-2008 BASE**

Province	S #	Name of City	Name of Market	Province	S #	Name of City	Name of Market									
<b>PUNJAB</b>	1	Islamabad	1. Abpara 2. Super & Rana 3. G-9 Markaz 4. Peshawar More	<b>SINDH</b>	21	Karachi	1. Saddar 2. Ranchorlines 3. New Karachi 4. Landhi 5. Liaqatabad 6. Nazimabad 7. Shah Faisal Colony 8. Tariq Road 9. Orangi Town 10. Malir 11. Gulshan-e-Iqbal 12. Defence 13. Clifton									
	2	Rawalpindi	1. Saddar 2. City 3. Satellite Town 4. Tariqabad 5. Tench Bhata 6. Muslim Town				22	Hyderabad	1. Shahi Bazar 2. Latifabad Uit No. 7 3. Phuleli 4. Latifabad Uit No. 11							
	3	Attock	1. City Market						23	Nawabshah	1. City Market					
	4	Jhelum	1. City Market						24	Mirpurkhas	1. City Market					
	5	Lahore	1. Anarkali 2. Shahalami 3. Saddar Bazaar 4. Baghbanpura 5. Ichra 6. Samanabad 7. Gulberg						25	Mithi	1. City Market					
									26	Sukkur	1. New Sukkur 2. Old Sukkur					
									27	Larkana	1. City Market					
									28	Dadu	1. City Market					
									6	Sahiwal	1. City Market	29	Peshawar	1. Cantt. 2. City Market 3. University Town		
														30	Mardan	1. City Market
														31	Abbottabad	1. City Market
	32	Bannu	1. City Market													
	33	D.I. Khan	1. City Market													
	34	Mingora	1. City Market													
	7	Gujranwala	1. City Market		<b>K.P.K</b>	35			Quetta	1. City Market 2. Satellite Town						
	8	Wazirabad	1. City Market							36	Turbat	1. City Market				
	9	Sialkot	1. City Market				37	Gawadar		1. City Market						
	10	Faislabad	1. Ghanta Ghar 2. Satiana Road				38	Loralai		1. City Market						
	11	Jhang	1. City Market				39	Khuzdar		1. City Market						
	12	Multan	1. Bohar Gate 2. Haram Gate 3. Cantt.				40	Dera Murad Jamali		1. City Market						
13	Muzaffargarh	1. City Market	<b>BALUCHISTAN</b>				35	Quetta		1. City Market 2. Satellite Town						
14	D. G. Khan	1. Saddar Bazar								36	Turbat	1. City Market				
15	Vehari	1. City Market			37	Gawadar			1. City Market							
16	Sargodha	1. City Market			38	Loralai			1. City Market							
17	Mianwali	1. City Market			39	Khuzdar			1. City Market							
18	Bahawalpur	1. City Market			40	Dera Murad Jamali			1. City Market							
19	Bahawalnagar	1. City Market														
20	R.Y. Khan	1. City Market														

<b>Summary regarding CPI</b>	
Total No. of Cities / Price Centres =	40
Total No. of Markets =	76
Total No. of Items =	487
Total No. of Commodities =	89
Total No. of Commodity groups =	12
Periodicity =	Monthly

**Note:** As per international Standards selection of basket of goods and assigning of weights to each item is based on Family Budget Survey. PBS developed the basket of goods and corresponding weights according to Family Budget Survey 2007-08.