



SPECIAL RELEASE

Headline Inflation in SOCCSKSARGEN Eases to 5.2 percent in January 2019

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INDEX POINTS

The average Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all items in SOCCSKSARGEN in the beginning of 2019 stood at 123.5 index points. This indicates that the average retail price of commodities that were included in the market basket for the month under review was higher by 23.5% compared to its prices in its reference base year, 2012. Comparing to last year's (January 2018) average CPI of 117.4, it increased by 6.1 index points (*Figure 1*).

FIGURE 1:
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX,
SOCCSKSARGEN:
JANUARY 2018
VS. JANUARY 2019

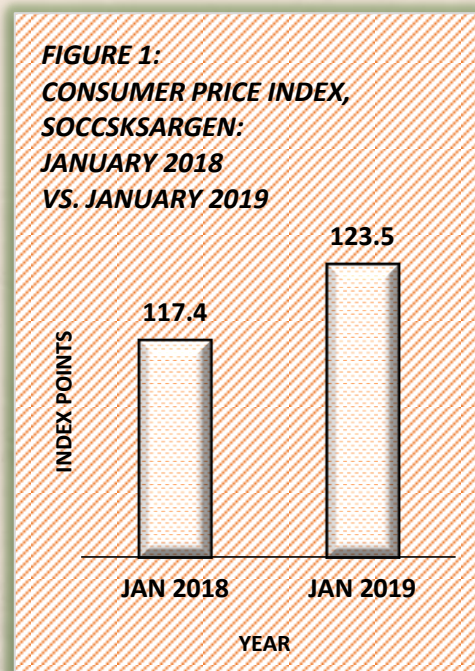
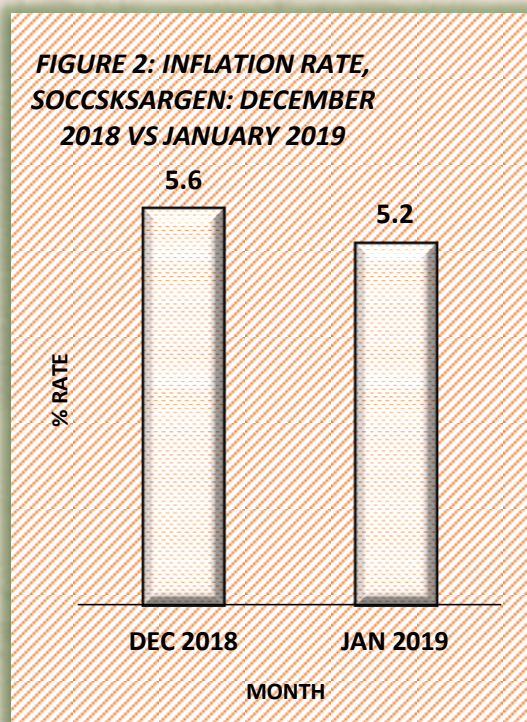


FIGURE 2: INFLATION RATE,
SOCCSKSARGEN: DECEMBER
2018 VS JANUARY 2019



INFLATION

Headline inflation or the annual rate of change in the prices of goods and services in the market basket further slowed down to 5.2% in January 2019 from 5.6% in December 2018 (*Figure 2*).

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



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INFLATION BY COMMODITY GROUP IN SOCCSKSARGEN

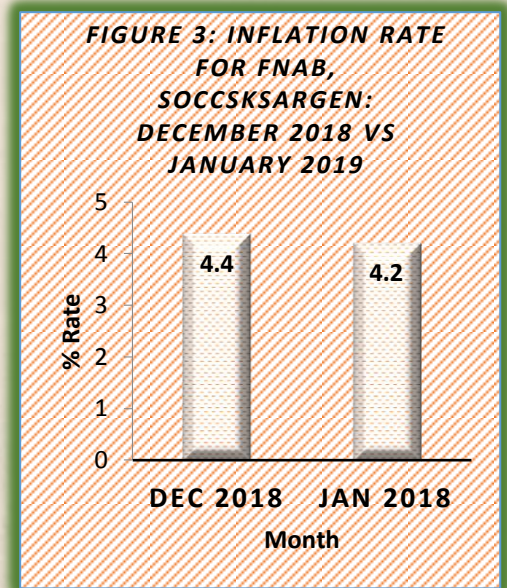
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (FNAB)

FNAB registered an inflation rate of 4.2% in January 2019, about 0.2 percentage points lower from 4.4% in December 2018 (Figure 3). Fish however, posted an annual hike of 9.4% while Vegetables posted an annual gain of 1.0%. The commodities that contributed to the slowdown were: Bread and Cereals, Rice, Meat, Fruit, and Sugar (Table 1).

TABLE 1: INFLATION RATE BY COMMODITY GROUP, FNAB, SOCCSKSARGEN: DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019

COMMODITY	DEC 2018	JAN 2019
Bread and Cereals	3.7	1.6
Rice	4.1	1.4
Meat	5.1	3.2
Fish	6.2	9.4
Fruit	-0.1	-1.7
Vegetables	-2.3	1.0
Sugar, Jam, Honey, Chocolate and Confectionery	9.5	7.9

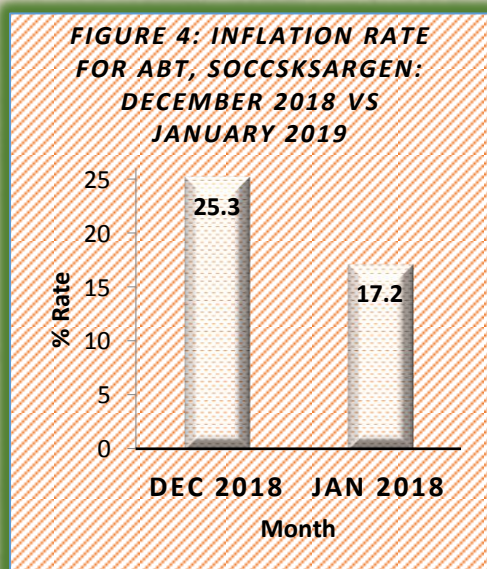
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (ABT)

ABT continued to post double digit gains although at a slower pace of 17.2% in January 2019 from 25.3% in December 2018, a decrease of 8.1 percentage points (Figure 4) as Tobacco continued to record double digit price upticks. Both Tobacco and Alcoholic Beverages posted slower price increment this month compared to December 2018 (Table 2).



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

TABLE 2: INFLATION RATE BY COMMODITY GROUP, ABT, SOCCSKSARGEN: DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019

COMMODITY	DEC 2018	JAN 2019
Alcoholic Beverages	7.7	6.8
Tobacco	32.3	21.0

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



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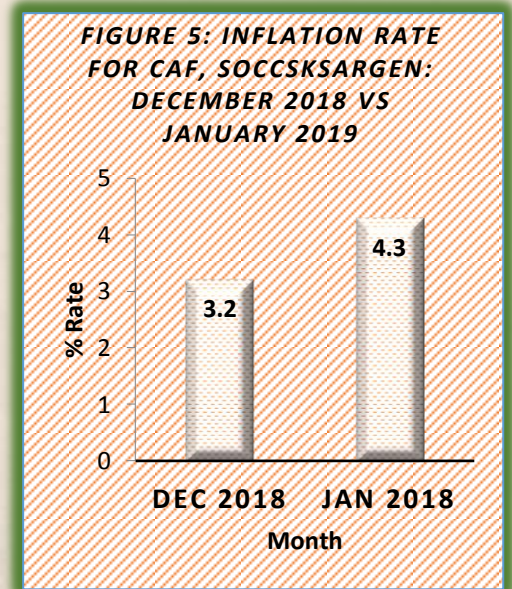


Clothing and Footwear (CAF)

CAF prices move faster from 3.2% in December 2018 to 4.3% in January 2019 (*Figure 5*) as Footwear climbed from previous month's 4.1% to 7.2% in January 2019 (*Table 3*).

COMMODITY	DEC 2018	JAN 2019
Clothing	2.9	3.2
Footwear	4.1	7.2

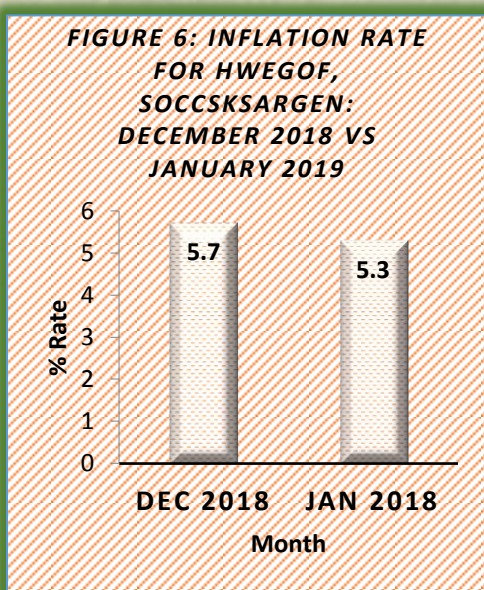
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels (HWEGOF)

Inflation rate for HWEGOF slightly decreased from 5.7% in December 2018 to 5.3% in January 2019 (*Figure 6*) as prices of Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels slowed down from 1.6% in December 2018 to 0.5% the following month (*Table 4*).



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

COMMODITY	DEC 2018	JAN 2019
Actual Rentals for Housing	10.0	10.0
Maintenance and Repair of the Dwelling	3.0	3.8
Water Supply and Miscellaneous Services Relating to the Dwelling	-0.7	-0.7
Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	1.6	0.5

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



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Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (FHERMH)

Price mark-ups for FHERMH in January 2019 were noted at 7.5% from its 7.0% in December 2018 (Figure 7). The upward trend was due to the increase in prices of Glassware, Tableware and Household Utensils, Tools and Equipment for House and Garden, as well as Goods and Services for Routine Household Maintenance (Table 5).

TABLE 5: INFLATION RATE BY COMMODITY GROUP, FHERMH, SOCCSKSARGEN: DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019

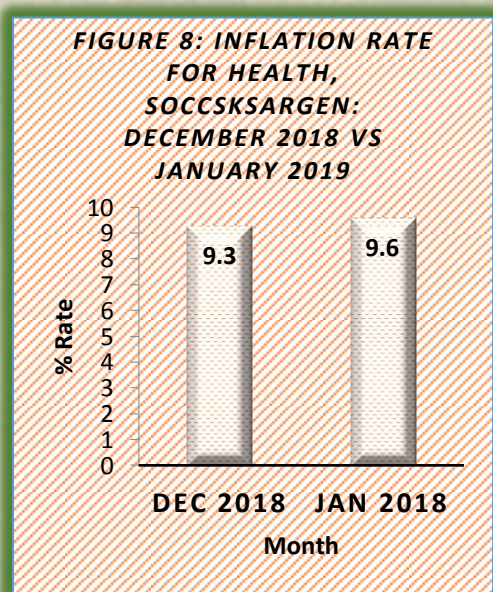
COMMODITY	DEC 2018	JAN 2019
Furniture and Furnishings, Carpets and Other Floor Coverings	3.9	3.9
Household Textiles	3.4	3.4
Household Appliances	1.2	1.2
Glassware, Tableware and Household Utensils	2.7	2.9
Tools and Equipment for House and Garden	2.0	3.1
Goods and Services for Routine Household Maintenance	8.4	9.0

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Health

Sustained price gains on Health were noted as it increased from 9.3% in December 2018 to 9.6% in January 2019 (Figure 8) as prices for Out-patient Services and Hospital Services continued to expand (Table 6).



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

TABLE 6: INFLATION RATE BY COMMODITY GROUP, HEALTH, SOCCSKSARGEN: DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019

COMMODITY	DEC 2018	JAN 2019
Medical Products, Appliances and Equipment	6.0	6.2
Out-patient Services	10.3	10.6
Hospital Services	11.2	11.6

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



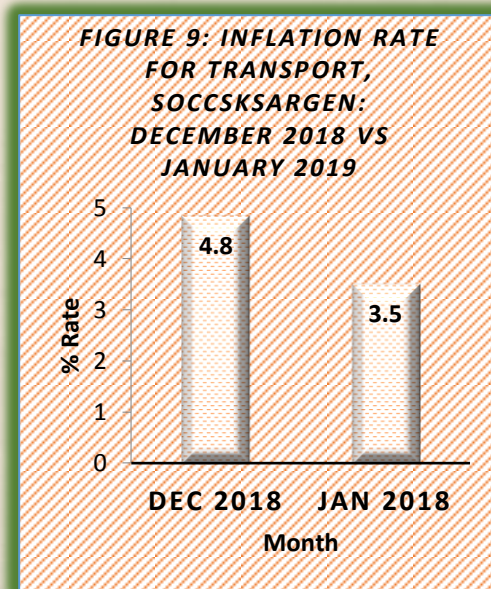


Transport

Slower annual price mark-up for Transport was noted in January 2019 at 3.5% from 4.8% last December 2018 (Figure 9) as Operation of Personal Transport Equipment and Transport Services both recorded slower price upticks (Table 7).

TABLE 7: INFLATION RATE BY COMMODITY GROUP, TRANSPORT, SOCCKSARGEN: DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019		
COMMODITY	DEC 2018	JAN 2019
Operation of Personal Transport Equipment	4.3	0.9
Transport Services	5.7	4.8

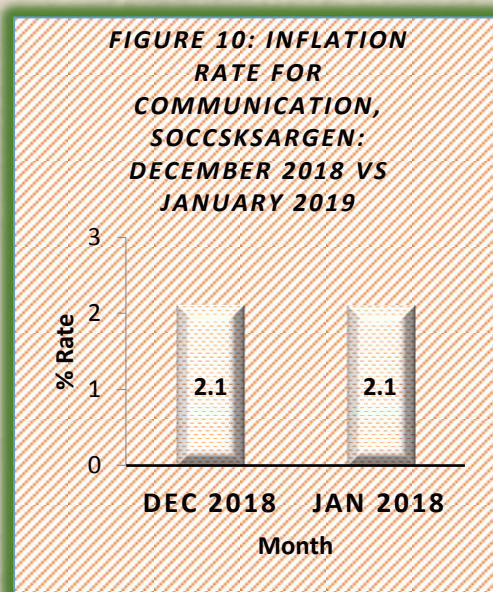
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Communication

Communication retained its inflation rate of 2.1% in December 2018 to January 2019 (Figure 10). There was no price movements recorded in all of the commodities under Communication from December 2018 to January 2019 (Table 8).



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

TABLE 8: INFLATION RATE BY COMMODITY GROUP, COMMUNICATION, SOCCKSARGEN: DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019		
COMMODITY	DEC 2018	JAN 2019
Postal Services	3.5	3.5
Telephone and Telefax Equipment	2.9	2.9
Telephone and Telefax Services	2.1	2.1

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



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Recreation and Culture (RAC)

RAC was able to sustain its price movement of 5.0% in December 2018 to January 2019 (Figure 11) as all the commodities in the subgroup barely recorded price upticks from December 2018 to January 2019 (Table 9).

TABLE 9: INFLATION RATE BY COMMODITY GROUP, RAC, SOCCSKSARGEN: DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019

COMMODITY	DEC 2018	JAN 2019
Audio-visual, Photographic and Information Processing Equipment	0.3	0.3
Other Major Durables for Recreation and Culture	0.2	0.2
Other Recreational Items and Equipment, Gardens and Pets	3.5	3.6
Recreational and Cultural Services	16.8	16.8
Newspapers, Books and Stationery	3.4	3.5

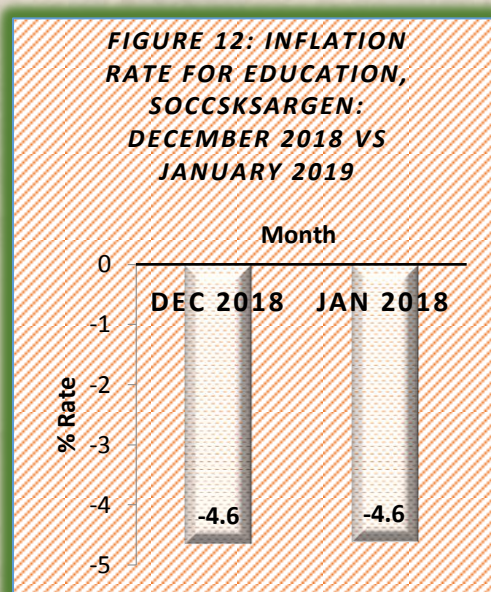
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Education

Price increments for Education was sustained at -4.6% last December 2018 to the same figure in January 2019 (Figure 12) as there was no substantial price movements in all the commodities under Education during the month under review from December 2018 (Table 10).

FIGURE 12: INFLATION RATE FOR EDUCATION, SOCCSKSARGEN: DECEMBER 2018 VS JANUARY 2019



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

TABLE 10: INFLATION RATE BY COMMODITY GROUP, EDUCATION, SOCCSKSARGEN: DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019

COMMODITY	DEC 2018	JAN 2019
Pre-primary and Primary Education	1.8	1.8
Secondary Education	2.6	2.6
Tertiary Education	-14.7	-14.7

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



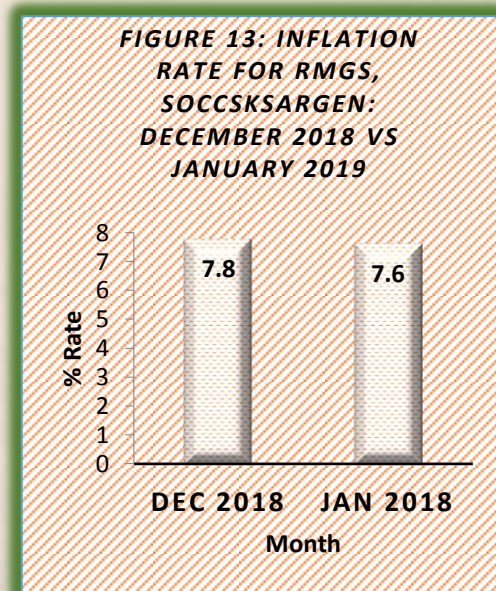


Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods and Services (RMGS)

Annual gains in the prices of RMGS slightly slackened from 7.8% in December 2018 to 7.6% in the beginning of 2019 (Figure 13). This can be partly attributed to the slight price reduction on Catering Services (Table 11).

COMMODITY	DEC 2018	JAN 2019
Catering Services	9.5	9.1
Personal Care	5.1	5.0
Personal Effects N.E.C.	4.3	5.3

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

The easing in the January 2019 prices for all items in the market basket was due to the lower price increments in FNAB (4.4% to 4.2.8%), ABT (25.3% to 17.2%), HWEGOF (5.7% to 5.3%), Transport (4.8% to 3.5%) and RMGS (7.8% to 7.6%). Three commodity groups, namely: Communication, RAC and Education sustained its previous month's rate. CAF (3.2% to 4.3%), FHERMH (7.0% to 7.5%) and Health (9.3% to 9.6%) posted slight price upticks from its December 2018 figure (Table 12).

COMMODITY GROUP	DECEMBER 2018	JANUARY 2019
ALL ITEMS	5.6	5.2
FNAB*	4.4	4.2
ABT*	25.3	17.2
CAF*	3.2	4.3
HWEGOF*	5.7	5.3
FHERMH*	7.0	7.5
HEALTH	9.3	9.6
TRANSPORT	4.8	3.5
COMMUNICATION	2.1	2.1
RAC*	5.0	5.0
EDUCATION	-4.6	-4.6
RMGS*	7.8	7.6

*Abbreviated (See Appendix)

Source of Basic Data: Consumer Price Index (2012=100), Philippine Statistics Authority



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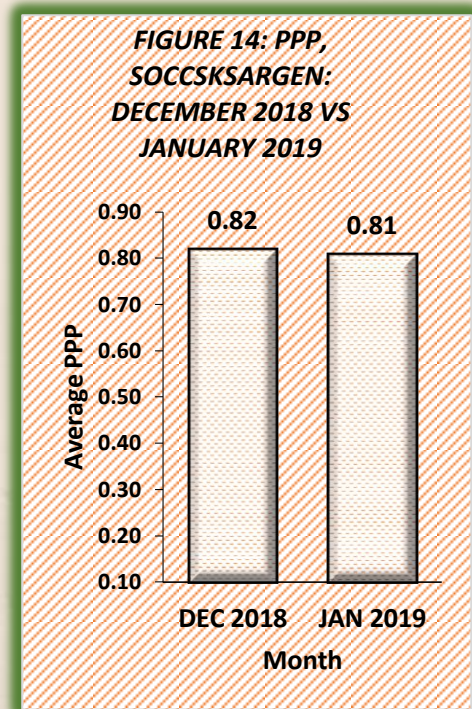


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PURCHASING POWER OF PESO (PPP)

The average Purchasing Power of Peso (PPP) in SOCCSKSARGEN in January 2019 was estimated at ₱0.81. This means that your ₱100.00 in January 2019 can only buy about 81.0% of the same basket of goods and services amounting to ₱100.00 in its 2012 reference base year. PPP in the region was pegged at ₱0.82 in December



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

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Appendix

Definition of Terms

Base Period/Year	this refers to the period, usually a year, at which the index number/points is set to 100. It is the point of the index number series
Consumer Price Index	it is defined as indicator of the change in the average retail prices of a fixed basket of goods and services commonly purchased by households relative to a base year
Inflation Rate	it is defined as the annual rate of change or the year-on-year change in the CPI expressed in percent
Market basket	is a term used to refer to a sample of goods and services that are commonly purchased and bought by an average Filipino household
Purchasing Power of Peso	is a measure of the real value of the peso in a given period relative to a chosen reference period. It shows how much the peso in the base period is worth in the current period. It is computed as the reciprocal of the CPI for the period under review multiplied by 100
Weights	a system that considers the relevance of the components of the index

Abbreviations

ABT	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco
CAF	Clothing and Footwear
CPI	Consumer Price Index
FHERMH	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Maintenance of the House
FNAB	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages
HWEGOF	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels
PPP	Purchasing Power of Peso
RAC	Recreation and Culture
RMGS	Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods

