

PRESS RELEASE

Summary INFLATION Report
Consumer Price Index
(2018=100)
March 2025

Date of Release: 07 April 2025
Reference No.: 65R12-PR2025-38

**Table 1. Year-on-Year Headline Inflation Rates, All Items in Percent
(2018=100)**

Area	March 2024	February 2025	March 2025	Year-to-Date*
Philippines	3.1	2.1	1.8	2.2
Region XII	4.4	(0.3)	(0.2)	0.2
Sultan Kudarat	5.1	0.2	(0.2)	0.5

*Year-on-year change of average CPI for January to March 2025 vs. 2024.

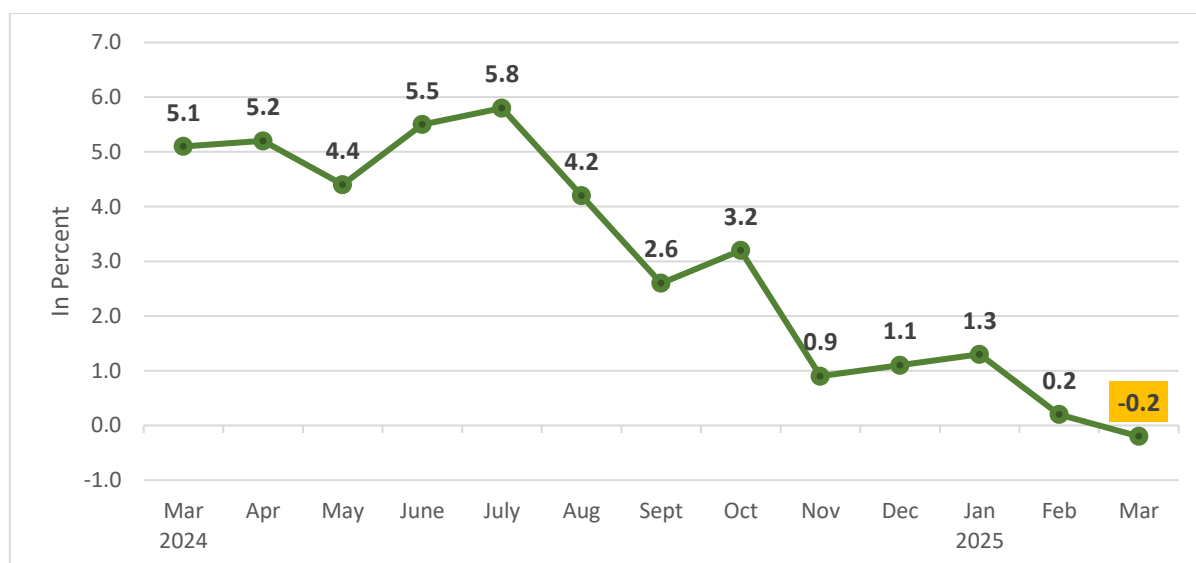
Source: Survey of Retail Prices of Commodities for Consumer Price Index, Philippine Statistics Authority

YEAR-ON-YEAR INFLATION RATES

The headline inflation rate or the year-on-year change in the prices of goods and services commonly purchased by people in the province of Sultan Kudarat continued to decrease to -0.2 percent in March 2025, compared to 0.2 percent recorded in February of the same year. This brings the provincial average inflation from January to March 2025 at 0.5 percent. This is the lowest rate reported in the province since January 2019. In March 2024, the inflation rate was higher at 5.1 percent. (*Table 1, Table 2, and Figure 1*)



**Figure 1: Inflation Rate in Sultan Kudarat Province, All Items
March 2024 to March 2025
(2018=100)**



Source: Survey of Retail Prices of Commodities for Consumer Price Index, Philippine Statistics Authority

**Table 2. Year-on-Year Inflation Rates, Sultan Kudarat Province in Percent
January 2019 – March 2025
(2018=100)**

Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
January	4.2	3.0	1.8	4.2	7.3	3.8	1.3
February	4.6	3.1	2.4	3.8	6.7	4.9	0.2
March	4.9	2.9	2.7	3.8	6.4	5.1	(0.2)
April	4.6	3.1	3.3	4.2	5.2	5.2	
May	3.5	2.7	3.5	4.1	5.4	4.4	
June	3.2	2.4	3.0	6.0	3.9	5.5	
July	2.2	2.5	3.5	6.0	2.9	5.8	
August	1.2	1.7	4.4	5.2	5.0	4.2	
September	0.2	2.2	3.3	5.6	6.1	2.6	
October	0.7	1.7	3.6	4.9	6.2	3.2	
November	1.9	1.9	3.5	5.7	7.0	0.9	
December	2.9	2.2	3.0	6.1	6.3	1.1	
Average	2.8	2.5	3.2	5.0	5.7	3.9	0.5

Source: Survey of Retail Prices of Commodities for Consumer Price Index, Philippine Statistics Authority

The downtrend in the overall inflation in March 2025 was primarily influenced by the lower annual growth rate in the index of Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages at -2.2 percent deflation compared to 1.2 percent deflation in February 2025. This was followed by Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels at 1.6 percent compared to 2.1 percent reported in February 2025 and Transport at -1.3 percent deflation compared to -0.9 percent deflation in February 2025.

Clothing and Footwear at 0.7 percent also contributed to the downtrend in March 2025 inflation.

In contrast, the six (6) commodity groups registered higher inflation rates during the month.

- a. Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco at 3.8 percent from 2.2 percent;
- b. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance at 3.5 percent from 2.6 percent;
- c. Health at 3.7 percent from 1.0 percent;
- d. Recreation, Sport and Culture at 4.4 percent from 2.9 percent;
- e. Restaurants and Accommodation Services at 3.5 percent from 3.1 percent; and
- f. Personal Care, and Miscellaneous Goods and Services at 3.3 percent from 2.2 percent.

Meanwhile, the indices of the rest of the commodity groups retained their respective previous month's inflation rate (*Table 3*)

**Table 3. Year-on-Year Inflation by Commodity Groups
Sultan Kudarat Province in Percent
March 2024, February 2025, and March 2025
(2018=100)**

COMMODITY GROUP	March 2024	February 2025	March 2025	Trend Indicator
ALL ITEMS	5.1	0.2	(0.2)	↓
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	8.2	(1.2)	(2.2)	↓
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	4.9	2.2	3.8	↑
Clothing and Footwear	2.9	0.9	0.7	↓
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	1.2	2.1	1.6	↓
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	3.8	2.6	3.5	↑
Health	1.1	1.0	3.7	↑
Transport	1.2	(0.9)	(1.3)	↓
Information and Communication	0.3	0.2	0.2	=
Recreation, Sport and Culture	7.9	2.9	4.4	↑
Education Services	1.8	0.7	0.7	=
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	3.7	3.1	3.5	↑
Financial Services	(0.4)	0.0	0.0	=
Personal Care, and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	2.4	2.2	3.3	↑

Source: Survey of Retail Prices of Commodities for Consumer Price Index, Philippine Statistics Authority

Food Inflation, likewise, decreased to -2.9 percent deflation compared to -1.8 percent deflation reported in February 2025. In March 2024, food inflation was higher at 8.9 percent. The deceleration of food inflation in March 2025 was primarily brought about by the lower annual growth rate of Cereals and Cereal Products at -13.0 percent deflation from -10.7 percent deflation. This was followed by Vegetables, Tubers, Plantains, Cooking Bananas and Pulses at 0.3 percent during the month compared to 2.8 percent in February 2025, and Fruits and Nuts at 5.7 percent from 7.4 percent in February 2025.

In addition, Meat and other parts of slaughtered land animals at 6.4 percent, and Ready-made food and other food products n.e.c. at 2.4 percent, also contributed to the downtrend of food inflation during the month.

In contrast, higher annual growth rates during the month were observed in the indices of the following food groups:

- a. Fish and Other Seafood at 1.8 percent from 1.7 percent;
- b. Milk, Other Dairy Products and Eggs at 5.3 percent from 1.1 percent;
- c. Oils and Fats at 22.2 percent from 21.5 percent; and
- a. Sugar, Confectionery and Desserts at 6.2 percent from 1.2. (Table 4)

**Table 4. Year-on-Year Inflation on Food Items
Sultan Kudarat Province in Percent
March 2024, February 2025, and March 2025
(2018=100)**

COMMODITY GROUP	March 2024	February 2025	March 2025	Trend Indicator
FOOD	8.9	(1.8)	(2.9)	↓
Cereals and Cereal Products	27.7	(10.7)	(13.0)	↓
-Cereals	33.6	(13.1)	(15.7)	↓
-Rice	37.0	(13.6)	(16.5)	↓
-Corn	(8.1)	(3.2)	(1.1)	↑
-Flour, Bread and Other Bakery Products, Pasta Products, And Other Cereals	3.0	2.1	2.0	↓
Meat and Other Parts of Slaughtered Land Animals	(3.3)	6.7	6.4	↓
Fish and Other Seafood	(5.7)	1.7	1.8	↑
Milk, Other Dairy Products and Eggs	0.7	1.1	5.3	↑
Oils and Fats	0.3	21.5	22.2	↑
Fruits and Nuts	10.0	7.4	5.7	↓
Vegetables, Tubers, Plantains, Cooking Bananas and Pulses	6.7	2.8	0.3	↓
Sugar, Confectionery and Desserts	(6.4)	1.2	6.2	↑
Ready-made Food and Other Food Products n.e.c.	4.5	2.8	2.4	↓

Source: Survey of Retail Prices of Commodities for Consumer Price Index, Philippine Statistics Authority

TECHNICAL NOTES

Consumer Price Index (CPI):

- ❖ A measure of the change in the average retail prices of a fixed basket of goods and services commonly purchased by households relative to base year.
- ❖ It measures the composite change in the consumer prices of various commodities overtime.
- ❖ It stands for the percentage change in the average prices of goods and services commonly bought by a group of consumers from the base year.

Components of the CPI:

Market Basket

- ❖ refers to sample of goods and services commonly purchased by a particular group of consumers in a particular area.

Weight

- ❖ a value attached to a commodity or group of commodities to indicate the relative importance of that commodity or group of commodities in the market basket.

Base Period

- ❖ a period usually a year, at which the index number is set to 100 or it is the reference point of the index number series.

Index Method

- ❖ gives the formula used in computing the index number.

Sample Outlets

- ❖ establishment or retail outlets where prices of commodities/services are collected or quoted.

Inflation Rate (IR)

- ❖ rate of change in the average price level as measured by the CPI between two periods.
- ❖ it is equivalent to the decline in the internal purchasing of the peso.
- ❖ it is derived indicator by comparing the CPI between two periods, usually a year.

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