

SOCCKSARGEN Region posts 1.7% inflation in April 2017

The annual inflation rate or the year-on-year change in the consumer price index (CPI) in the SOCCSKSARGEN Region in April 2017 was estimated at 1.7 percent, the price change was lesser compared to the previous month's 2.9 percent. The increase in rate means that the prices of goods and services in the region in April 2017 were 1.7 percent higher on all commodity groups compared to its prices in April 2016.

During the period, all commodity groups posted increases in prices, except for Communication which retained its previous year's index. The faster increase in prices were noted in Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (3.0 percent); followed by, Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels (2.6%); Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (1.9%); and, Education (1.0%). Minimal increases were recorded in Health (0.7%); Transport (0.7%); Clothing and Footwear (0.6%); Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods and Services (0.6%); and, Furnishing and Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (0.5%).

Table 1. **CPI and Inflation Rate by Commodity Group, Region XII: March 2017– April 2017**
(2006=100)

Commodity Group	April		Inflation Rate	March		Inflation Rate
	2017	2016		2017	2016	
All Items	156.7	154.1	1.7	157.1	152.7	2.9
Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	165.6	162.5	1.9	165.9	160.4	3.4
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	203.5	197.6	3.0	203.3	195.8	3.8
Clothing and Footwear	143.7	142.9	0.6	143.7	142.9	0.6
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels	163.2	159.0	2.6	164.4	156.8	4.8
Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	128.6	128.0	0.5	128.6	127.8	0.6
Health	149.8	148.7	0.7	149.8	148.4	0.9
Transport	126.4	125.5	0.7	126.6	125.4	1.0
Communication	89.5	89.5	0.0	89.5	89.5	0.0
Recreation and Culture	117.6	117.4	0.2	117.6	117.4	0.2
Education	170.0	168.3	1.0	170.0	168.3	1.0
Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	137.5	136.7	0.6	137.5	136.5	0.7

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

South Cotabato had the highest inflation rate in the region in April 2017 at 2.7 percent, followed by Cotabato Province (1.9%), and Cotabato City (1.8%). On the other hand, Sarangani had the lowest inflation rate during the period at 0.6 percent.


Table 2. **Inflation Rate and Peso Purchasing Power, Region XII: April 2016 and April 2017**

Area	Inflation Rate (%)		Peso Purchasing Power	
	April		April	
	2016	2017	2016	2017
Region XII	2.5	1.7	0.65	0.64
Cotabato (Including Kidapawan City)	2.7	1.9	0.59	0.58
South Cotabato (Including Koronadal City and General Santos City)	1.8	2.7	0.69	0.68
Sarangani	0.7	0.6	0.66	0.65
Sultan Kudarat (Including Tacurong City)	5.4	0.9	0.67	0.67
Cotabato City	0.6	1.8	0.70	0.69

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

In April 2017, the Peso Purchasing Power (PPP) in the SOCCSKSARGEN Region was estimated at 64 centavos, down by a centavo compared to the 65 centavos during the same month of the previous year. The highest PPP in the region this month was recorded in Cotabato City at 69 centavos, followed by South Cotabato (Php 0.68), Sultan Kudarat (Php 0.67) and Sarangani (Php 0.65). The lowest PPP in the region was noted in Cotabato Province at 58 centavos.

Approved for Release:


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