

SPECIAL RELEASE

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR ALL INCOME HOUSEHOLDS IN SOCCSKSARGEN REGION: July 2018 (2012 = 100)

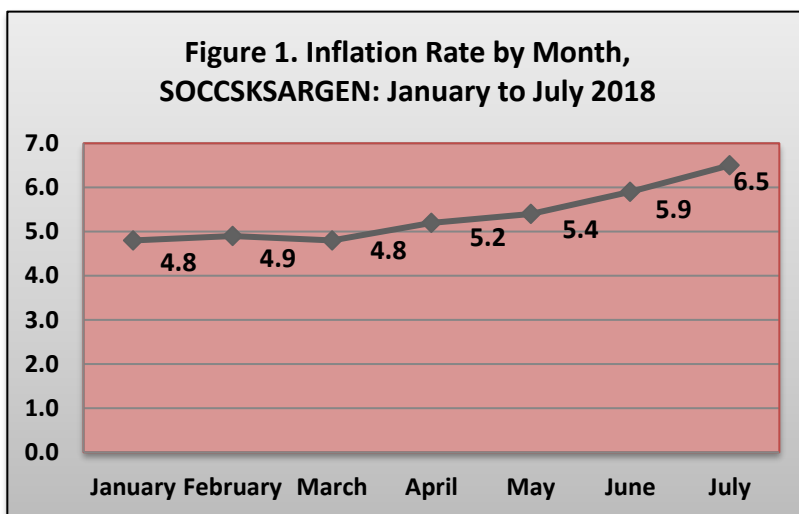
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Inflation in SOCCSKSARGEN Region Rises to 6.5% in July 2018

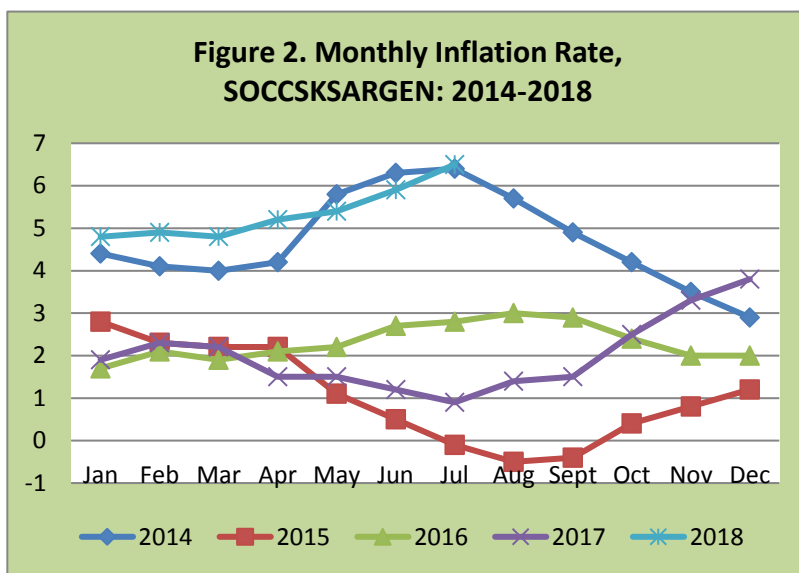
The annual headline inflation rate (IR) or the year-on-year change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) of SOCCSKSARGEN Region rose to 6.5 percent in July 2018, higher than the 5.9 percent growth posted in June 2018, and 6.2 percentage points higher when compared to the 0.9 percent posted in July 2017.

Inflation in July 2018 was the highest this year since January of 2018 and in the last five years (2014-2018). The highest inflation from 2014-2018 was posted in July 2014 at 6.4 percent, at almost the same level as that of the July 2018 record. From 3.8 percent in December 2017, inflation slowly accelerated from 4.8 percent in January to reach 6.5 percent in July of this year.

Except for the deflation recorded in Education, contributing to the uptrend was the higher annual increases noted in the price indices of all commodity groups in the CPI's market basket of goods and services.



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Among the 11 commodity groups of the CPI (see Table 1), only Education (-4.4%) posted a deflation in July 2018. A steady inflation of 0.8 percent was observed in Education for the first four months of 2018. The inflation doubled (1.8%) in June 2018 triggered by spending on education-related items on the beginning of the new school year.

Table 1. Inflation Rates By Commodity Group, SOCCSKSARGEN Region January-July 2018

Commodity Group	Inflation Rate (%)						
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
All Items	4.8	4.9	4.8	5.2	5.4	5.9	6.5
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	6.8	5.7	6.2	6.5	6.6	6.8	7.2
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	14.0	19.1	20.7	20.6	20.9	20.9	22.0
Clothing and Footwear	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.3
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels	4.4	5.3	3.7	4.6	4.6	5.9	7.2
Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	2.0
Health	2.8	3.0	1.9	2.1	2.5	2.1	4.8
Transport	2.6	3.7	3.6	5.2	6.2	6.3	6.3
Communication	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	1.2
Recreation and Culture	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.7	1.1
Education	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.6	(4.4)
Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	1.5	2.9	3.5	3.4	4.0	4.9	5.6

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

The rest of the commodity groups posted faster annual mark-ups this July 2018. The highest uptick was noted in Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (22.0%) followed by Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels (7.2%); Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (7.2%); Transport (6.3%); Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods and Services (5.6%); Health (4.8%); Furnishing, Households Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House (2.0%); Clothing and Footwear (1.3%); Communication (1.2%); and Recreation and Culture (1.1%).

The fastest price mark-ups during the last seven months were noted in Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (8.0 percentage points); Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods and Services (4.1 percentage points; and Transport (3.7 percentage points).

Prices of sin products — tobacco and alcohol —continued to surge in July 2018. From an inflation of 20.9 percent in June 2018, it accelerated to almost four times (22.0%) that of the 6.3 percent recorded in June 2017. Price mark-ups for tobacco and alcohol rose from 14.0 percent in January 2018 to 20.9 percent in May and June 2018. Prices of tobacco products, in particular, soared from an inflation of 7.2 percent in July 2017 to more than four times (29.4%) in July 2018.

Higher price movements were also noted on the heavily weighted Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages. From 0.3 percent in July 2017, an annual uptick of 7.2 percent was noted in July 2018; much higher than the 6.8 percent recorded in June 2018. Food products showed a 7.1 percent increase in prices in July 2018 compared to the 0.3 percent recorded in July 2017. Inflation for Non-Alcoholic Beverages, likewise, soared to 9.3 percent in July 2018 from 0.9 percent a year ago.

Table 2. Year-on-Year Consumer Price Index and Inflation Rates of Selected Food Items, SOCCSKSARGEN Region July and June 2018 and 2017

Food Item	Consumer Price Index				Inflation Rates (%)	
	2018		2017		July 2018	July 2017
	July	June	July	June		
Bread and Cereals	121.9	119.7	113.2	112.6	7.7	6.3
Rice	121.8	119.0	112.0	111.3	8.7	7.0
Corn	131.5	133.0	122.0	121.7	7.9	9.3
Other Cereals, Flour, Cereal Preparation, Bread, Pasta and Other Bakery Products	119.6	118.5	115.7	115.5	3.4	2.6
Meat	120.1	120.3	112.4	111.9	6.9	7.5
Fish	129.0	132.9	117.9	120.6	9.4	10.2
Milk, Cheese and Egg	113.9	113.1	111.3	111.1	2.3	1.8
Oils and Fats	106.8	106.5	106.1	106.0	0.7	0.5
Fruits	124.5	128.5	123.6	125.1	0.7	2.7
Vegetables	145.4	145.8	135.2	133.4	7.5	9.3

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Among the Food Items, the highest price increments in July 2018 were noted on Fish (9.4%), Rice (8.7%), Corn (7.9%), Bread and Cereals (7.7%), Vegetables (7.5%), Meat (6.9%), Other Cereals, Flour, Cereal Preparation, Bread, Pasta and Other Bakery Products (3.4%), and on Milk, Cheese and Eggs (2.3%). When compared to the same period last year, faster price movements were recorded on Rice (7.0% to 8.7%); Bread and Cereals (6.3% to 7.7%); Other Cereals, Flour, Cereal Preparation, Bread, Pasta and Other Bakery Products (2.6% to 3.4%); Milk, Cheese and Eggs (1.8% to 2.3%).

Table 3. Consumer Price Index and Inflation Rate by Province, SOCCSKSARGEN Region: July 2018 and 2017

Province	CPI		Inflation Rate		
	2018	2017	2018	2017	Difference
Cotabato	124.7	116.1	7.4	1.2	5.2
Sarangani	121.8	115.4	5.5	0.5	10.0
South Cotabato	117.5	109.7	7.1	0.5	13.2
Sultan Kudarat	119.7	114.7	4.4	1.5	1.9

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Faster price hikes in July 2018 were noted in all provinces in the region as compared to the same figures in July 2017. The biggest uptick, however, was noted in South Cotabato with an increment of 13.2 percentage points from July 2017 to July 2018; next was Sarangani with a 10.0 percentage points difference followed by Cotabato (5.2 percentage points) and Sultan Kudarat (1.9 percentage points).

In July 2018, the highest inflation rate was recorded in Cotabato, at 7.4 percent and was closely followed by South Cotabato at 7.1 percent.

Table 4. Peso Purchasing Power, By Province and Region, SOCCSKSARGEN: July 2018 and 2017

Province	July		Percent Change
	2018	2017	
Region XII	0.83	0.88	(0.06)
Cotabato	0.80	0.86	(0.07)
Sarangani	0.82	0.87	(0.06)
South Cotabato	0.85	0.91	(0.07)
Sultan Kudarat	0.84	0.87	(0.03)

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

The July 2018 Peso Purchasing Power (PPP) in SOCCSKSARGEN Region stood at Php 0.83, lower than the Php 0.88 estimated last year. This means that the Php 100 in July 2018 can only buy about 83.0 percent of the same basket of goods and services worth P100 in 2012. Of the four provinces in the region, Cotabato had the lowest PPP in July 2018 at Php 0.80. The PPPs in all provinces were lower in July 2017 compared to the same period in 2018.

Overall, the country recorded a 5.7 inflation rate for July 2017, with seven (7) regions having inflation rates below the national average. The three regions with the highest inflation rate during the period were ARMM (7.5%), Bicol Region (7.4%) and SOCCSKSARGEN (6.5%). Thirteen regions posted higher inflation rates in July 2018 compared to June 2018.

Table 5. Inflation Rates For All Items By Region, Philippines: June -July 2018

AREA / REGION	Inflation Rate for All Items	
	July 2018	June 2018
Philippines	5.7	5.2
NCR- National Capital Region	6.5	5.8
Areas Outside NCR	5.5	5.1
Regions:		
CAR - Cordillera Administrative Region	4.1	3.9
I - Ilocos Region	5.9	5.8
II - Cagayan Valley	5.9	4.9
III - Central Luzon	2.7	3.0
IV-A - CALABARZON	5.9	4.7
MIMAROPA Region	4.0	4.1
V - Bicol Region	7.4	6.9
VI - Western Visayas	6.2	6.1
VII - Central Visayas	6.5	6.4
VIII - Eastern Visayas	5.9	6.3
IX - Zamboanga Peninsula	5.5	6.7
X - Northern Mindanao	5.4	4.9
XI - Davao Region	6.2	5.4
XII - SOCCSKSARGEN	6.5	5.9
XIII - Caraga	4.4	3.6
ARMM - Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao	7.5	7.7

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority




Technical Notes:

Consumer Price Index (CPI) – is a measure that examines the weighted average of prices of a basket of consumer goods and services

Inflation Rate (IR) – is a measurement of inflation, the rate of increase of a price index. It is the percentage rate of change in prices level over time.

Headline Inflation – refers to the rate of change in the CPI, a measure of the average price of a standard “basket” of goods and services consumed by a typical family.

Approved for Release:


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