

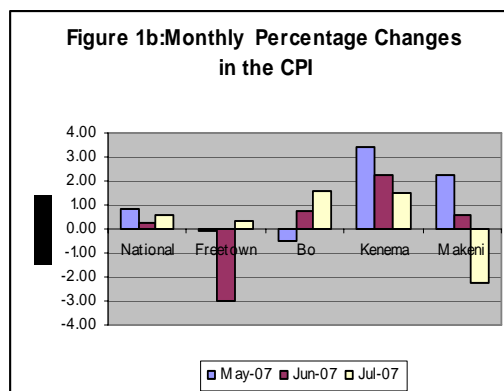
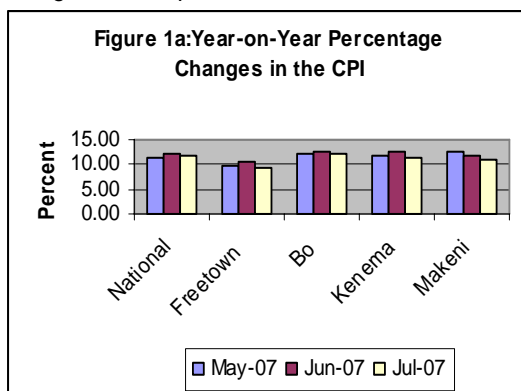


CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) JULY 2007: PRESS RELEASE

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THE INTERIM NATIONAL RATE OF INFLATION DECREASES SLIGHTLY

The composite annual rate of inflation decreased by 0.38 percentage point from 11.99 per cent in June 2007, to 11.61 per cent in July 2007. The monthly rate of inflation for July 2007 was 0.58 per cent when the consumer price index for July 2007 is compared with that for June 2007. The July 2007 inflation rate was therefore up by 0.30 percentage point when compared with the June 2007 inflation figure which was 0.28 per cent. In the month of July 2007, the year-on-year inflation rates decreased in all centres while the monthly inflation rates for the Composite, Bo and Kenema CPI increased by 0.58 per cent, 0.89 per cent and 2.75 per cent respectively. Alternatively the Freetown and Makeni monthly inflation rates decreased in varying magnitudes. Moreover, in the old CPI series (1992=100), the year-on-year rate of inflation (i.e. comparing the CPI in the current month with the CPI in the same month last year) decreased in Freetown from 10.22 per cent in June 2007 to 9.13 per cent in July 2007, in Bo from 13.65 per cent to 12.23 per cent, in Kenema from 11.01 per cent to 10.75 per cent and in Makeni from 13.90 per cent to 11.84 per cent during the same period.



FACTORS INFLUENCING CHANGES IN THE MONTHLY RATE OF INFLATION

The combined monthly CPI (2003=100) for July 2007 increased from 159.36 in June 2007 to 160.29 in July 2007 as a result of the increases in the indices for Food products like bread and cereals (4.88 per cent), meat (0.69 per cent), oils and fats (8.82 per cent) and milk, cheese and eggs (3.65 per cent). The Food index therefore increased by 0.55 per cent. Moreover, the indices for Clothing increased by 2.25 per cent, Footwear by 2.50 per cent, Household textiles by 0.44 per cent and Transport services by 1.81 per cent. The shortfall in the supply of food products in the markets in all centres during the month of July 2007 be due to the observed hesitant import business activity preceding the 2007 General Elections coupled with seasonal decline in the production of some of these food products.

The decreases recorded in the cost of Narcotics (3.0 per cent), glassware, tableware and household utensils (0.94 per cent), gas and other fuels (0.80 per cent), maintenance and repair of the dwellings (0.84 per cent), operation of personal transport equipment (0.08 per cent), audio visual, photographic and information processing equipment (0.40 per cent), newspapers, books and stationery (0.54 per cent), catering services (1.48 per cent) and electricity, gas and other fuels (3.78 per cent) were not sufficient to offset the increase in the composite CPI, during the month of July 2007

More information can also be obtained from our website: www.statistics.sl

For More Detailed Information: Subscribe to the Detailed CPI Report. Please Contact: The Statistician General, Statistics Sierra Leone P. O. Box 595, Tower Hill, Freetown, SIERRA LEONE Telephone: (232) 22- 223287 Call: (232) 76 – 609989 Facsimile: (232) 22- 223897 E-Mail: statistics@statistics.sl or info@statistics.sl

		July-06	April-07	May-07	June-07	July-07			
COICOP	WEIGHT	Month Previous Year	Month M-3 for Current Year	Month M-2 for Current Year	Month M-1 for Current Year	Month M for Current Year	Monthly Change	3 Months Change	12 months Change
o	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i
Food & Non-Alcoholic bev.	50.81	139.01	154.53	156.10	157.40	158.36	0.61	2.48	13.92
Alcoholic Bev. Tob. & Narcotics	2.50	114.86	122.33	122.36	120.72	121.62	0.75	-0.58	5.89
Clothing and Footwear	8.11	114.44	115.50	116.13	118.34	121.09	2.33	4.84	5.81
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other fuels	9.63	168.07	177.07	177.61	175.46	174.55	-0.52	-1.42	3.85
Furnishing, H/hold Equipt & H/hold Maint.	4.01	130.90	144.72	145.53	146.01	147.96	1.33	2.24	13.03
Health	3.55	355.72	427.93	425.87	425.40	429.59	0.99	0.39	20.77
Transport	6.40	137.40	141.87	142.00	142.90	144.82	1.34	2.08	5.40
Communication	0.72	119.18	134.41	134.41	134.41	134.41	0.00	0.00	12.78
Recreation and Culture	5.24	128.82	138.23	138.25	139.80	139.43	-0.26	0.87	8.24
Education	1.62	105.28	106.42	106.38	106.38	107.23	0.79	0.76	1.85
Restaurant and Hotels	4.26	116.79	135.21	143.72	137.32	135.28	-1.48	0.06	15.83
Miscellaneous G&S	3.18	117.60	124.27	125.06	124.40	125.31	0.73	0.83	6.55
All Items	100.00	143.62	157.66	158.92	159.36	160.29	0.58	1.67	11.60