



## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) SEPTEMBER, 2008: PRESS RELEASE

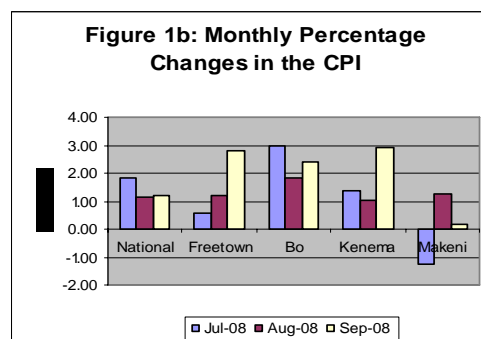
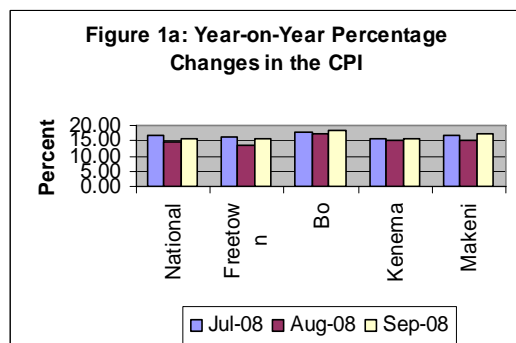
Released on Monday, October 20, 2008: at 1:00 pm

### SEPTEMBER 2008 ANNUAL INFLATION RATE INCREASES SLIGHTLY

The Composite year-on-year Inflation rate (2003=100) increased by 0.94 percentage point from 14.81% in August 2008 to 15.75% in September 2008. The monthly rate of inflation for September 2008 was 1.16% which was slightly lower than the monthly increase in August 2008(1.17%). The September 2008 monthly inflation rate was therefore down by 0.01 percentage point when compared with the August 2008 inflation figure.

There were increases in the year-on-year rate of inflation in all centers during the month of September 2008. The year-on-year inflation rates increased in varying magnitudes in Freetown from 13.71% in August to 15.64% in September 2008, in Bo from 17.03% in August 2008 to 18.19% in September, in Makeni from 15.1% in August 2008 to 17.2% in September 2008 and in Kenema from 15.0% in August 2008 to 15.9 in September 2008.

In the old CPI series (1992=100) the annual rates of inflation increased in Freetown from 15.43 in August 2008 to 17.04% in September 2008, in Bo from 17.42% in August 2008 to 17.74% in September 2008 and in Makeni from 15.51% in August 2008 to 15.92% in September 2008, while it decreases slightly in Kenema from 18.94% in August 2008 to 18.93% in September 2008.



### FACTORS INFLUENCING CHANGES IN THE MONTHLY RATE OF INFLATION

The combined monthly CPI for September 2008 increased from 188.23% in August 2008 to 190.42% in September 2008. Increases were recorded for all main CPI groups except alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics (-6.57%), health (-0.53%), communication (-16.23%) and miscellaneous goods and services (-1.61%) for which decreases were recorded. The increase in the monthly rate of inflation this month was caused by the increases in the cost of food(3.2%) reinforced by increases in the cost of housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (0.34%), education(1.20%), and Hotels and Restaurants(4.31%). The food products for which price increases were recorded in most centers include bread and cereals (4.59%), meat (1.49%), fish and seafood (4.67%), milk, cheese and eggs (2.19%), oils and fats(2.38%) and fruits(10.78%).

More information can also be obtained from our website: [www.statistics.sl](http://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: [info@statistics.sl](mailto:info@statistics.sl)/[statistics@statistics.sl](mailto:statistics@statistics.sl)

National CPI and Year-on-Year Rates of Inflation by Main COICOP Groups (2003=100)									
		Sept-07	Jun-08	Jul-08	Aug-08	Sept-08			
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	165.70	184.23	189.23	190.87	197.04	3.23	6.95	18.91
Alcoholic Bev. Tob. & Narcotics	2.50	127.61	140.97	142.10	145.70	136.12	-6.57	-3.44	6.67
Clothing And Footwear	8.11	125.55	131.62	132.91	134.95	136.08	0.83	3.39	8.38
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	9.63	170.85	211.88	211.09	206.97	207.67	0.34	-1.99	21.55
Furnishing, H/hold Equipt & H/hold Maint.	4.01	152.92	161.85	162.15	162.87	162.97	0.06	0.69	6.57
Health	3.55	433.79	492.71	493.18	487.98	485.38	-0.53	-1.49	11.89
Transport	6.40	145.19	163.87	163.79	178.20	165.96	-6.87	1.28	14.31
Communication	0.72	134.41	134.41	160.45	160.45	134.41	-16.23	0.00	0.00
Recreation And Culture	5.24	143.16	133.42	133.19	132.58	133.32	0.55	-0.08	-6.88
Education	1.62	107.66	108.91	109.45	108.52	109.82	1.20	0.84	2.00
Restaurant And Hotels	4.26	126.56	153.10	155.22	164.51	171.61	4.31	12.09	35.59
Miscellaneous G&S	3.18	129.62	140.43	141.25	143.82	141.50	-1.61	0.76	9.16
All Items	100.00	164.51	183.33	186.06	188.23	190.42	1.16	3.87	15.75

Column Description
Column O : COICOP 12 Functions
Column A : CPI Weighting
Column B : CPI Of The Given Month (M) For Previous Year
Column C : CPI Of The Given Month (M -3) For Current Year
Column D : CPI Of The Given Month (M -2) For Current Year
Column E : CPI Of The Given Month (M -1) For Current Year
Column G : CPI Monthly Change In % ((F-E) X 100 /E)
Column H : CPI 3 Months Change In % ((F-C) X 100 /C)
Column I : CPI 12 Months Change In % ((F-B) X 100/B).

The Interim National CPI measures the change in prices, on average, from month to month, of the goods and services bought by most households, in Freetown, Bo, Kenema and Makeni including all expenditure groups and both families and single persons. Prices are collected for 251 items. All prices collected are the prevailing retail market prices from six (6) markets in the Greater Freetown area, three (3) Markets in Bo Town, three (3) markets in Kenema Town and two (2) markets in Makeni Town for weekly prices and other outlets for monthly items whose prices are less likely to fluctuate rapidly. The National Index was computed by aggregating the CPI for the four index towns previously published separately with different base periods. The old CPI series for Bo, Kenema, Makeni and Freetown were rebased to base year 2003. Computation methodology changed from the Modified to the Traditional Laspeyres, and transformed into the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP) with 12 functions. The separate center CPIs were aggregated at the sub-class level.

**FREETOWN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)-OLD SERIES**

	Food	Beverage. & Tobacco	Rent Rates & Repairs	Fuel & Power	Cloth & Foot wear	Furniture Goods	Expan. Goods & services	Personal Transport	Tran sport & Comm.	Med. & Medicare	Education & Stationery	Enter & Recreation	Personal Goods & Services	All Items	Monthly % Change	Annual % Change
<b>Wgts</b>	<b>54.13</b>	<b>3.63</b>	<b>3.92</b>	<b>6.51</b>	<b>7.35</b>	<b>1.86</b>	<b>2.46</b>	<b>1.16</b>	<b>4.77</b>	<b>3.45</b>	<b>4.11</b>	<b>3.72</b>	<b>2.93</b>	<b>100</b>		
<b>2005 Jan</b>	375.85	14.80	39.18	33.47	20.90	7.28	25.08	10.64	34.09	22.15	16.60	22.78	12.34	<b>645.16</b>	-0.56	8.89
Feb	375.53	15.12	39.19	33.12	31.24	7.44	24.93	10.64	34.09	22.15	16.60	22.78	12.45	<b>645.28</b>	0.02	7.52
Mar	376.64	15.14	39.19	33.93	31.74	7.73	27.42	10.64	34.09	21.89	16.61	22.78	12.54	<b>650.34</b>	0.78	10.43
April	377.49	15.16	39.19	34.71	32.28	7.80	26.23	12.04	38.49	21.66	16.89	22.78	12.64	<b>657.36</b>	1.08	10.67
May	386.41	15.16	39.19	38.32	31.82	7.89	24.59	12.06	38.49	21.68	16.89	22.87	12.69	<b>669.16</b>	1.80	10.40
June	397.86	15.20	39.19	47.14	32.96	7.89	24.42	12.08	38.49	21.71	16.89	22.87	12.08	<b>690.07</b>	3.12	11.14
July	409.02	15.30	39.19	50.04	33.27	7.80	24.71	12.08	41.43	21.88	16.85	22.89	12.08	<b>708.19</b>	2.63	13.86
Aug	414.69	16.10	39.19	51.12	33.20	7.78	26.76	12.53	41.43	23.96	17.65	23.02	12.53	<b>721.70</b>	1.91	15.23
Sept	412.21	16.19	39.23	58.52	33.56	7.63	26.45	13.75	44.98	24.27	17.69	23.10	13.75	<b>731.97</b>	1.42	15.90
Oct	405.74	16.20	39.23	65.43	34.22	8.28	25.69	13.76	45.23	24.27	17.69	24.27	13.76	<b>735.33</b>	0.46	14.45
Nov	404.51	16.03	39.27	68.06	32.04	7.99	26.05	13.76	45.82	24.27	17.73	24.27	13.76	<b>736.99</b>	0.23	12.29
Dec	408.29	16.52	39.27	58.92	34.74	7.97	26.01	13.83	45.82	24.29	17.98	24.28	16.85	<b>733.76</b>	-0.44	13.10
<b>2006 Jan</b>	408.73	16.18	39.20	64.97	32.81	7.93	24.11	13.73	46.04	24.02	16.71	24.24	15.83	<b>734.50</b>	0.10	13.85
Feb	410.66	15.87	39.27	59.78	33.33	8.01	25.25	13.72	46.48	24.00	16.68	24.25	15.90	<b>733.50</b>	-0.17	13.63
Mar	411.66	16.28	39.27	59.12	33.93	7.92	26.53	13.73	46.67	24.00	17.59	24.25	17.27	<b>738.23</b>	0.68	13.52
April	414.25	16.08	39.27	60.40	33.50	8.43	25.88	13.73	46.48	24.88	16.54	24.34	15.65	<b>739.42</b>	0.16	12.48
May	415.84	16.17	39.27	62.67	33.91	8.44	24.47	13.73	49.97	25.16	16.16	24.71	15.68	746.99	1.02	11.75
June	424.41	15.97	39.25	57.14	33.32	8.12	25.34	14.76	50.69	24.00	18.90	25.76	16.16	<b>753.84</b>	0.92	9.24
July	421.09	15.89	39.25	64.86	33.40	9.28	25.00	15.45	50.43	24.68	18.80	26.00	15.36	<b>759.42</b>	0.74	7.24
Aug	430.53	15.88	40.29	60.30	32.57	9.34	24.88	15.62	50.43	24.67	18.80	26.49	15.70	<b>766.49</b>	0.93	6.21
Sept	441.38	16.01	43.43	62.39	33.82	9.92	22.95	16.63	51.29	24.70	17.54	26.50	14.92	<b>780.48</b>	1.82	6.63
Oct	439.29	16.07	43.43	64.42	33.89	10.03	25.16	15.25	52.96	25.13	19.06	26.53	14.96	<b>786.15</b>	0.73	6.91
Nov	436.56	16.14	43.43	64.87	33.96	10.53	24.71	15.44	52.98	25.13	20.41	26.62	15.84	<b>786.61</b>	0.06	6.73
Dec	434.66	17.36	44.89	69.54	33.69	10.37	23.96	15.84	52.98	25.68	22.13	26.75	16.55	<b>794.39</b>	0.99	8.26
<b>2007 Jan</b>	445.68	17.52	44.91	70.70	33.85	10.39	23.87	15.96	53.00	25.98	20.42	29.35	14.92	<b>806.55</b>	1.53	9.81
Feb	464.13	17.13	44.91	71.01	34.33	10.29	25.03	16.07	53.00	26.22	20.46	29.61	15.03	<b>827.10</b>	2.55	12.80
Mar	450.50	17.21	44.84	68.29	34.43	10.57	23.86	15.76	52.95	26.21	20.49	32.60	15.05	<b>812.77</b>	-1.73	10.10
Apr.	453.04	17.63	44.84	70.69	34.57	11.39	25.23	15.80	52.87	26.51	20.64	34.82	15.97	<b>824.00</b>	1.38	11.44
May	451.1	17.74	44.84	67.6	34.62	11.28	27.65	15.88	53.00	26.51	20.99	34.52	16.1	<b>821.84</b>	-0.26	10.02
June	455.65	17.55	46.53	69.24	34.38	11.24	27.62	15.96	53.00	26.51	21.36	34.85	17.00	<b>830.90</b>	1.10	10.22
July	451.32	17.78	46.49	72.21	34.58	11.26	28.33	16.09	51.36	26.54	20.77	34.99	17.07	<b>828.79</b>	-0.25	9.13
August	477.51	19.46	46.41	72.67	34.76	11.67	28.76	16.08	51.36	26.56	20.78	34.99	18.48	<b>859.50</b>	3.71	12.13
Sept	483.44	19.53	47.69	73.58	34.80	11.84	31.95	16.26	51.36	25.56	20.75	34.99	18.75	<b>870.49</b>	1.28	11.53
October	505.70	18.12	48.95	74.82	34.45	12.54	28.25	16.13	51.57	25.55	21.31	34.80	18.81	<b>891.01</b>	2.36	13.34
Nov	508.69	18.11	48.96	79.41	35.01	12.55	28.63	17.54	56.47	25.55	22.16	34.80	18.96	<b>905.83</b>	1.66	15.16
December	502.57	18.12	48.97	83.04	33.75	12.23	28.87	17.79	56.78	25.52	22.62	34.58	18.90	<b>903.72</b>	-0.23	13.76
<b>2008 Jan</b>	516.87	19.28	49.01	75.69	33.77	12.22	31.14	17.99	56.78	25.45	22.56	34.61	19.18	<b>914.53</b>	1.20	13.39
Feb-08	533.38	19.31	49.01	83.43	33.51	12.19	30.78	18.00	57.40	25.45	22.74	36.07	19.34	<b>940.60</b>	2.85	13.72
Mar-08	523.37	19.12	49.14	82.73	33.91	12.50	32.96	18.06	57.55	25.49	22.67	35.82	19.45	<b>932.77</b>	-0.83	14.77
April	538.90	19.41	49.14	79.81	33.79	12.09	29.86	17.99	57.53	25.45	22.66	36.36	19.22	<b>942.20</b>	1.01	14.35
May-08	543.55	19.26	49.01	83.62	34.31	12.56	30.56	19.92	62.44	25.50	23.41	36.11	19.71	959.97	1.89	16.81
June-08	550.56	19.46	49.01	83.59	34.64	12.69	31.06	19.94	61.42	25.93	23.99	36.12	20.30	968.74	0.91	16.59
Jul-08	559.21	19.43	49.01	83.59	34.38	12.65	32.13	19.96	60.78	25.91	23.99	36.32	20.34	977.70	0.93	17.97
Aug-08	570.42	20.08	49.01	83.78	35.49	12.89	32.53	20.07	60.78	25.93	23.99	36.47	20.65	992.10	1.47	15.43
Sept-08	603.05	20.24	49.02	79.40	35.42	13.07	30.10	20.25	60.78	25.93	24.54	36.39	20.64	1018.84	2.70	17.04