

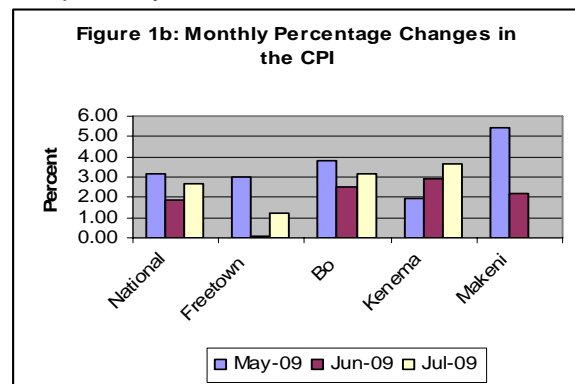
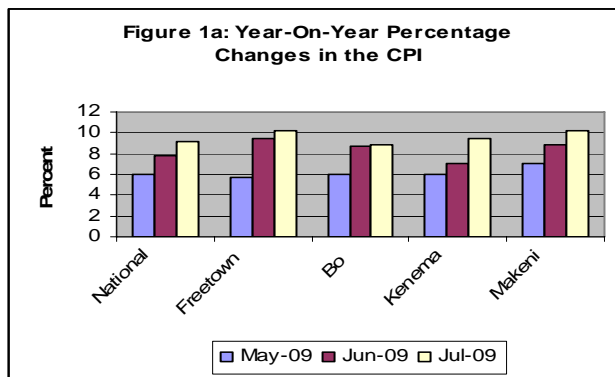
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) JULY, 2009: PRESS RELEASE

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**JULY 2009 MONTHLY INFLATION RATE INCREASED MODERATELY**

The monthly rate of inflation for the composite index (2003=100) increased by 2.69 per cent, when the CPI for July 2009 is compared with the CPI figure for June 2009. Similarly, the monthly rate of inflation increased in Freetown (1.3 percent), Bo (3.20 percent), and Kenema (3.7 percent) during the same period. The composite year-on-year inflation rate (2003=100) increased by 1.30 percentage points from 7.83 per cent in June 2009 to 9.13 per cent in July 2009. There were also upward movements in the year-on-year rate of inflation in all centers. From June 2009 to July 2009, the year-on-year rates of inflation increased in Freetown from 9.4 percent to 10.1 percent, in Bo from 8.64 percent to 8.90 percent, in Kenema from 7.0 percent to 9.4 percent and in Makeni from 8.90 percent to 10.3 percent during the same period.

Considering the old CPI series (1992=100), there were mixed movements in the CPI. In Kenema the year-on-year rate of inflation increased from 6.45 per cent in June 2009 to 7.49 in July 2009 and in Makeni from 8.31 per cent in June 2009 to 8.95 per cent in July 2009 during the same period. It was in Freetown and Bo that the year-on-year rates of inflation decreased slightly from 7.78 percent in June 2009 to 7.61 percent in July 2009 and 8.68 per cent in June 2009 to 8.35 per cent in July 2009 respectively.



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

The combined monthly CPI for July 2009 increased from 197.73 per cent in June 2009 to 203.05 per cent in July 2009 resulting in a 2.69 percent increase in inflation this month. The general rise in the price level for July 2009 reinforces the significant increase in the index last month indicating a build up of inflationary pressure in the economy. This continuous increase in the monthly rate of inflation since March 2009 may be connected to the continuous depreciation of the Leone (about 17 %) against the major currencies (US Dollar and the Euro). The increase in the CPI this month was driven by increases in the cost of food especially bread and cereals(1.0 per cent), fish and seafood(1.43 per cent), milk, cheese and eggs(4.14 per cent), oils fats(11.04 per cent), and fruits(12.99 per cent) reinforced by increases in actual rentals paid by tenants(0.43 per cent), cost of maintenance and repair of the dwelling(0.19 per cent) and solid fuels(4.32 per cent) while the price of liquid fuels remained constant.

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: [statistics@statistics.sl](mailto:statistics@statistics.sl) OR [info@statistics.sl](mailto:info@statistics.sl)

Composite Consumer Price Indices by COICOP Groups(2003=100)									
		July-08	April-09	May-09	June-09	July-09			
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 and Non-Alcoholic Beverage	50.81	189.23	191.21	199.60	202.40	208.24	2.89	8.91	10.05
Alcoholic Beverage, Tobacco and Narcotics	2.50	142.10	145.43	145.36	146.54	149.20	1.82	2.60	5.00
Clothing and Footwear	8.11	132.91	137.73	139.47	140.35	142.54	1.56	3.49	7.25
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	9.63	211.09	202.34	208.44	215.49	217.02	0.71	7.25	2.81
Furnishing, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	4.01	162.15	166.47	167.03	169.74	171.95	1.30	3.29	6.04
Health	3.55	493.18	513.44	515.39	527.58	529.97	0.45	3.22	7.46
Transport	6.40	163.79	150.50	155.24	165.35	176.34	6.64	17.17	7.66
Communication	0.72	160.45	128.16	128.16	128.16	135.11	5.43	5.43	-15.79
Recreation and Culture	5.24	133.19	135.63	135.81	136.40	140.33	2.89	3.47	5.36
Education	1.62	109.45	120.70	120.18	121.27	121.72	0.37	0.85	11.21
Restaurant and hotels	4.26	155.22	162.67	177.68	177.52	196.62	10.76	20.87	26.67
Miscellaneous G&S	3.18	141.25	165.29	165.29	171.11	171.54	0.25	3.78	21.45
All items	100.00	186.06	188.09	194.11	197.73	203.05	2.69	7.96	9.13
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.

