



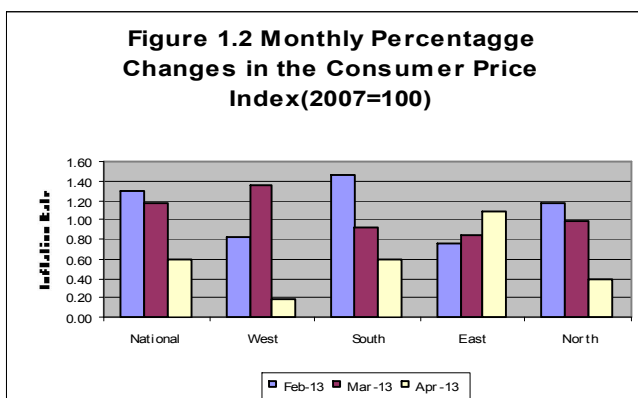
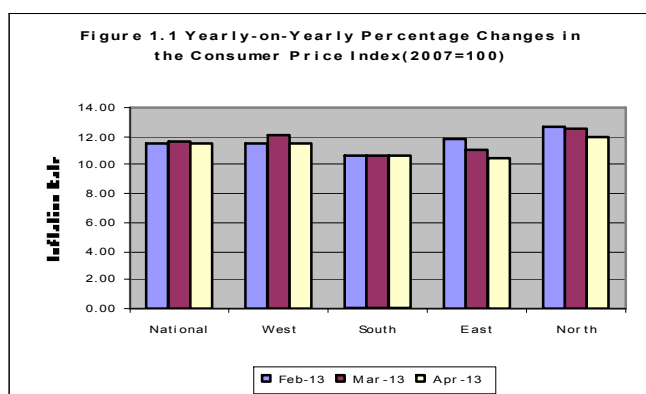
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) April, 2013: PRESS RELEASE

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APRIL 2013 MONTHLY INFLATION RATE INCREASES SLIGHTLY

The national monthly CPI (2007=100) increased from 211.27 per cent in March 2013 to 212.52 per cent in April, 2013 resulting in a 0.59 per cent increase in inflation rate this month. Similarly, the monthly rates of inflation increased slightly in all the regions. Western Area (0.19 per cent), Northern Region (0.38 per cent), Southern region (0.60 per cent) and the Eastern Region (1.09 per cent) comprising of two centers, Kenema (0.50 per cent) and Kono (0.35 per cent) during the same period. Nevertheless, the annual Inflation rate for April, 2013 decreased slightly from 11.63 per cent in March, 2013 to 11.47 per cent in April, 2013. This reflects a 0.16 percentage point decrease over March, 2013.

Considering the old CPI series (1992=100), the year-on-year rates of inflation decreased slightly in all the centers. Freetown from 10.89 per cent to 10.19 per cent, in Bo from 13.77 per cent to 12.23 per cent, in Makeni from 12.45 per cent to 11.48 per cent and in Kenema from 11.14 per cent to 10.26 per cent during the same period.



FACTORS INFLUENCING CHANGES IN THE MONTHLY RATE OF INFLATION

The national monthly CPI (2007=100) increased from 211.27 per cent in March 2013 to 212.52 per cent in April, 2013 resulting in a 0.59 per cent increase in inflation rate this month. There was a general increase in the price level in all the four regions affecting almost all the components of the index. On a national basis, there were increases in the indices for the following groups; food and non-alcoholic beverages (0.61 per cent), alcoholic beverage, tobacco and narcotics (0.93 per cent), clothing and footwear (0.83 per cent), housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (0.30 per cent), furnishing, household equipment and household maintenance (1.26 per cent), health (0.58 per cent), communication (0.03 per cent) and restaurant and hotels (0.45 per cent). The food products which indices increased this month include bread and cereals (0.47 per cent), meat (0.01 per cent), fish and seafood (2.03 per cent), meat (0.01 per cent) and oils and fats (1.34 per cent) and vegetables (0.42 per cent). However, the food products indices decreased this month include milk, cheese and eggs (-0.01 per cent) and fruits (-0.92 per cent).

The food price increase was probably as a result of a severe shortage in the supply of petrol in the month of April, 2013 even though the pump price did not increase officially.

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

Table 1.0: National CPI and Year-on- Year Rates of Inflation by Main COICOP Groups (2003=100)

		Apr-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13			
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	41.86	210.72	231.46	234.47	237.23	238.66	0.60	3.11	13.26
Alcoholic Beverage, Tobacco and Narcotics	1.71	223.25	244.78	247.69	252.83	255.19	0.93	4.25	14.31
Clothing and Footwear	7.34	186.56	213.79	217.28	219.20	221.03	0.83	3.38	18.47
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	13.70	176.48	187.71	189.33	192.97	193.55	0.30	3.11	9.68
Furnishing, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	5.86	208.24	224.11	230.06	233.65	236.59	1.26	5.57	13.61
Health	11.36	187.72	196.70	197.68	199.65	200.81	0.58	2.09	6.97
Transport	7.75	156.33	162.42	167.56	168.59	168.97	0.23	4.04	8.09
Communication	2.04	108.41	110.03	110.04	110.21	110.24	0.03	0.19	1.68
Recreation and Culture	1.47	160.91	163.13	163.33	163.71	164.44	0.45	0.81	2.19
Education	2.88	134.03	135.18	135.29	135.30	135.35	0.04	0.13	0.99
Restaurant and hotels	0.92	129.51	146.76	148.00	150.15	150.83	0.45	2.78	16.46
Miscellaneous G&S	3.13	176.08	184.02	184.21	184.50	185.98	0.81	1.07	5.63
All Items	100.00	190.65	206.16	208.83	211.27	212.52	0.59	3.08	11.47
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 % $((f-e) \times 100 / e)$									
Column h : CPI 3 months change in % $((f-c) \times 100 / c)$									
Column i : CPI 12 months change in % $((f-b) \times 100 / b)$.									

The 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 at which level new weights were also introduced to obtain the Interim National Index.

