



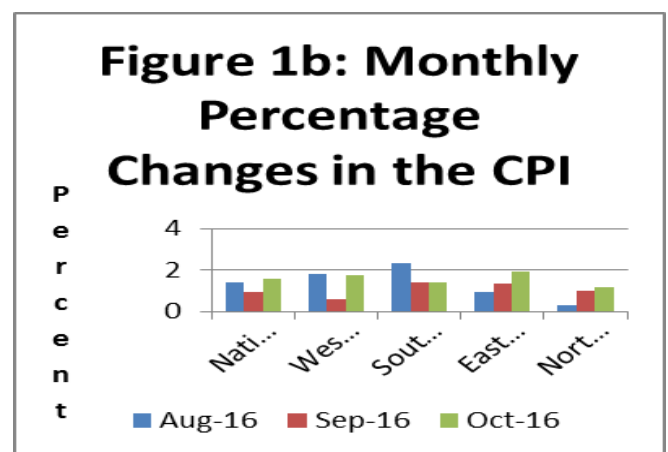
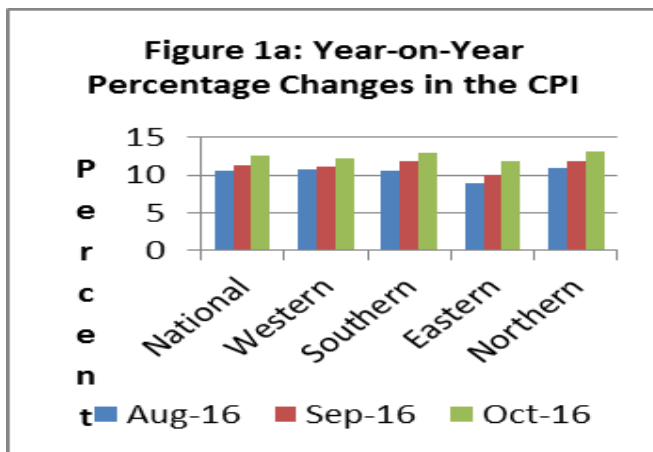
## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) October, 2016: PRESS RELEASE

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### OCTOBER 2016 MONTHLY INFLATION RATE INCREASES SLIGHTLY

The national monthly CPI (2008=100) increased from 175.13 per cent in September, 2016 to 177.89 per cent in October, 2016 resulting in a 1.58 per cent increase in inflation rate this month. Similarly, the monthly rates of inflation increased in all the regions. Western Area (1.76 per cent), Northern Region (1.19 per cent), Southern region (1.37 per cent) and the Eastern Region (1.93 per cent) comprising two centers, Kenema (1.72 per cent) and Kono (2.16 per cent) during the same period. Also, the national annual inflation rate for September, 2016 increased slightly from 11.31 per cent in September, 2016 to 12.56 per cent in October, 2016. Again, the year-on-year rates of inflation increased in Western region from 11.15 per cent in September, 2016 to 12.3 per cent in October, 2016, in Northern region from 11.87 per cent to 13.14 per cent and in Southern region from 11.89 per cent to 12.94 per cent and in Eastern region from 10.04 per cent to 11.85 per cent.

Figures 1a & 1b below illustrate the movement in the year-on-year rates of inflation and monthly rates of inflation respectively for the National CPI and other CPI centers while table 1 below shows the National CPI from the months of October, 2015 to October, 2016 and the 12 month change in the CPI for the main index groups.



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

The national monthly CPI (2007=100) increased from 175.13 in September, 2016 to 177.89 per cent in October, 2016 resulting in a 1.58 per cent increase in inflation rate this month. This reflects a monthly increase that is greater than the previous month, meaning that prices are increasing at a higher rate. The increase in the price level for October, 2016 was as a result of the continuous slight depreciation of the leone as against the forex especially the US dollar. There was a general increase in the price level in all the four regions which affected most of the components in the CPI basket.

At the national level, there was a slight increase in the index for food (1.45 per cent) due to the increase in both imported and local rice which led to an increase in the cost of food. The prices of food especially bread and cereals, meat, fish and seafood, oils and fats, fruits etc. increased in all centers. The other indices that slightly increased were health (2.41 per cent), clothing and footwear (1.63 per cent), restaurant and hotel (1.1 per cent), furnishing and household maintenance (1.56 per cent) and alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics (1.2 per cent).

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 - 610004 Facsimile: (232) 22- 223897 E-Mail: [info@statistics.sl/statistics@statistics.sl](mailto:info@statistics.sl/statistics@statistics.sl)

## National CPI and Year-on- Year Rates of Inflation by Main COICOP Groups (2008=100)

|   |        | Oct-15                | July-16                     | Aug-16                     | Sep-16                     | Oct-16                   |                |                 |                  |
|---|--------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 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 |
| Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverage                           | 41.86  | 167.01                | 182.88                      | 186.78                     | 187.72                     | 190.45                   | 1.45           | 4.14            | 14.04            |
| Alcoholic Beverage, Tobacco and Narcotics                 | 1.71   | 150.17                | 160.87                      | 162.19                     | 164.38                     | 166.36                   | 1.20           | 3.41            | 10.78            |
| Clothing and Footwear                                     | 7.34   | 167.42                | 183.52                      | 185.77                     | 187.75                     | 190.81                   | 1.63           | 3.97            | 13.97            |
| Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels          | 13.70  | 141.88                | 150.46                      | 151.09                     | 152.38                     | 152.59                   | 0.14           | 1.42            | 7.55             |
| Furnishing, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance | 5.86   | 171.99                | 187.58                      | 192.19                     | 193.4                      | 196.42                   | 1.56           | 4.71            | 14.20            |
| Health  | 11.36  | 158.97                | 171.16                      | 172.42                     | 177.12                     | 181.38                   | 2.41           | 5.97            | 14.10            |
| Transport   | 7.75   | 142.62                | 149.65                      | 150.21                     | 150.71                     | 151.95                   | 0.82           | 1.54            | 6.54             |
| Communication   | 2.04   | 128.02                | 133.7                       | 133.81                     | 134.75                     | 135.41                   | 0.49           | 1.28            | 5.77             |
| Recreation and Culture                                    | 1.47   | 150.79                | 167.86                      | 169.31                     | 170.37                     | 174.46                   | 2.40           | 3.93            | 15.70            |
| Education   | 2.88   | 124.33                | 129.21                      | 129.38                     | 133.23                     | 135.65                   | 1.82           | 4.98            | 9.10             |
| Restaurant and Hotels                                     | 0.92   | 149.2                 | 161.13                      | 161.47                     | 162.07                     | 163.86                   | 1.10           | 1.69            | 9.83             |
| Miscellaneous G & S                                       | 3.13   | 149.47                | 159.48                      | 159.52                     | 160                        | 169.43                   | 5.89           | 6.24            | 13.35            |
| All Items   | 100    | 158.04                | 171.11                      | 173.5                      | 175.13                     | 177.89                   | 1.58           | 3.96            | 12.56            |

### 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.