

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX OCTOBER 2019 PRESS RELEASE

Released: 22nd November, 2019 @ 12: 00 noon

Contact Person:

Mwaluma Andrew Bryma Gegbe

Director of National Accounts and Economic Statistics Division

Statistics Sierra Leone

Mobile: +23279442430/ +23288000898 Email: mwaluma.gegbe@statistics.sl

Skype: mwaluma.gegbe

Isata M. Allieu-Keikura

Principal Statistician and Head, Price & Labour Statistics Section

National Accounts and Economic Statistics Division

Statistics Sierra Leone Mobile: +23276580842

Email: isata.allieu-keikura@statistics.sl

Reviewed by

Andrew Bob Johnny

Deputy Statistician General Statistics Sierra Leone

Email: andrew.johnny@statistics.sl

Approved for release by:

Prof. Osman Sankoh, DSc Statistician General Statistics Sierra Leone

Email: osman.sankoh@statistics.sl

22nd November 2019

CONTENTS

	Contents	i
	Key Finding	i
	Detailed Explanation on the October, 2019 Consumer Price Index (CPI)	1
	Figure 1a: Year-on-Year Percentage Changes in the CPI	1
	Figure 1b: Monthly Percentage Changes in the CPI	1
	Table 1.0: Regional Year-on-Year and Monthly Inflation rates	1
	Table 1.1: National CPI and Year-on-Year Rates of Inflation by Main COICOP Groups (2008=100)	2
Detai	iled Results	3
	Table 2.0: CPI Headline index numbers (2008=100)	3
	Table 2.1: CPI Headline year-on-year rates	3
	Table 3.0: Year-on-Year and Monthly Inflation Rates	4
	Table 4.0: National Consumer Price Index by Main COICOP Groups (2008=100)	5

KEY FINDINGS

Headline National Inflation Rate

Annual National Consumer Price inflation (year-on-year) went up by 0.69 percentage point from 15.16 percent in September 2019 to 15.85 percent in October 2019.

The monthly consumer price inflation for October 2019 is -0.13 percent; down by 0.32 percentage point from 0.19 percent in September 2019.

Contributions to headline annual (year-on-year) consumer price inflation

- √ Food and non-alcoholic beverages increased from 8.30 percent in September 2019 to 9.07
 percent in October 2019. The inflation rate increased by 0.77 percentage points year-onyear.
- ✓ Alcoholic beverages and tobacco maintenance increased from 12.84 percent in September 2019 to 16.09 percent in October 2019. The inflation rate increased by 3.25 percentage points year-on-year.
- ✓ Clothing and footwear declined by 1.63 percentage points from 21.62 percent in September 2019 to 19.99 percent in October 2019
- ✓ Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels increased from 7.14 percent in September 2019 to 9.98 percent in October 2019. The inflation rate increased by 2.84 percentage points year-on-year.
- ✓ Furniture, household equipment and household maintenance declined by 0.17 percentage points from 25.51 percent in September 2019 to 25.34 percent in October 2019
- ✓ Health declined by 0.58 percentage point from 46.22 percent in September 2019 to 45.64 percent in October 2019.
- √ Transport declined by 0.28 percentage point from 13.85 percent in September 2019 to 13.57 percent in October 2019.
- Communication declined by 0.49 percentage point from 6.45 percent in September 2019 to 5.96 percent in October 2019.
- ✓ Recreation and Culture increased from -0.48 percent in September 2019 to 0.30 percent in October 2019. The inflation rate increased by 0.78 percentage points year-on-year.
- ✓ For Education, no change is noticed between September, 2019 and October, 2019.
- ✓ Restaurant and Hotels declined by 9.68 percentage points from 30.60 percent in September 2019 to 20.92 percent in October 2019.
- Miscellaneous goods and services inflation increased from 11.39 percent in September 2019 to 15.62 percent in October 2019. The inflation rate increased by 4.23 percentage points year-on-year.

Contributions to monthly consumer price inflation

- ✓ Food and non-alcoholic beverages declined by 1.68 percentage points from 0.91percent in September, 2019 to -0.77 percent in October, 2019.
- ✓ Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics increased from -1.70 percent in September, 2019 to -0.29 percent in October, 2019. The inflation rate increased by 1.41 percentage points year-on-year.
- ✓ Clothing and footwear declined by 0.57 percentage points from 0.22 percent in September, 2019 to -0.35 percent in October, 2019.
- ✓ Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels increased from 0.46 percent in September, 2019 to 1.57 percent in October, 2019. The inflation rate increased by 1.11 percentage points year-on-year.
- ✓ Furniture, household equipment and household maintenance declined by 0.97 percentage points from 1.47 percent in September, 2019 to 0.50 percent in October, 2019.
- ✓ Health increased from -3.83 percent in September, 2019 to 0.37 percent in October, 2019. The inflation rate increased by 4.20 percentage points year-on-year.
- √ Transport declined by 2.48 percentage points from 2.52 percent in September, 2019 to 0.04 percent in October, 2019.
- ✓ Communication increased from -8.89 percent in September, 2019 to 0.00 percent in October, 2019. The inflation rate increased by 8.89 percentage points year-on-year.
- ✓ Recreation and Culture increased by 0.26 percentage points from -0.43 percent in September, 2019 to -0.17 percent in October, 2019.
- ✓ For Education, no change is noticed between September, 2019 and October, 2019.
- ✓ Restaurants and hotels Culture declined by 12.77 percentage points from 12.38 percent in September, 2019 to -0.39 percent in October, 2019.
- ✓ Miscellaneous goods and services declined by 3.59 percentage points from 3.83 percent in September, 2019 to 0.24 percent in October, 2019.

DETAILED EXPLANATION ON THE SEPTEMBER, 2019 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)

The national monthly CPI (2008=100) decreased from 279.86 in September 2019 to 279.49 in October 2019 resulting in -0.13 percent inflation this month. Similarly, the monthly rates of inflation decreased to 0.66 percent in October compared with September for Eastern region comprising Kenema -0.51 percent and Kono 1.75 percent. Also, Northern region -2.91 percent and Southern region -1.47 percent all declined while the Western Area increased by 1.83 percent.

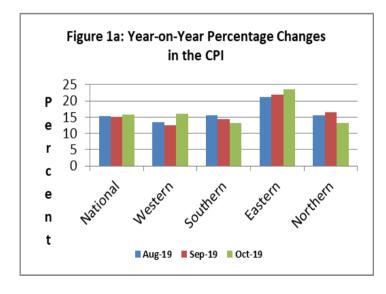
The national year-on-year inflation for October 2019 is 15.85 percent, which indicates an upward trend compared to 15.16 percent in September 2019. In the regions, the Eastern and Western Area regions show upward movements from 21.79 percent in September 2019 to 23.51 percent in October 2019 and Western Area region from 12.59 percent in September 2019 to 15.96 percent in October 2019 respectively. However, Southern region changed from 14.39 percent in September 2019 to 13.29 percent in October 2019 and Northern region from 16.42 percent in September 2019 to 13.24 percent in October 2019; both showing downward movements.

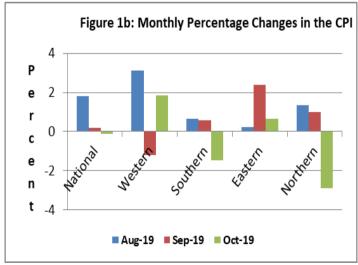
Table 1.0 Regional Year-on-Year and Monthly Inflation rates (Adjusted)

2008=100												
Month	National		Western Area		Eastern Region		Souther	n Region	Northern Region			
	Year- on-year	Monthly	Year- on-year	Monthly	Year- on-year	Monthly	Year- on-year	Monthly	Year- on-year	Monthly		
Sept., 2019	15.16	0.19	12.59	-1.19	21.79	2.38	14.39	0.57	16.42	1.00		
Oct., 2019	15.85	-0.13	15.96	1.83	23.51	0.66	13.29	-1.47	13.24	-2.91		

It is observed from the table above that the year-on-year inflation rates for the Eastern and Western Area regions are above the national estimate for the month of October, 2019; while Southern and Northern regions are below.

Figures 1a &1b below illustrate the movement in the year-on-year inflation and monthly inflation respectively for the National CPI and Regional CPI centers, while Table 1.1 below shows the National CPI of the months of August, 2019 to October, 2019; as well as the 12 months change in the CPI for the main COICOP functions.





FACTORS INFLUENCING CHANGES IN THE MONTHLY RATE OF INFLATION

The monthly price inflation of -0.13 percent reflects a general change in the price level in all the four regions which affected all of the items in the CPI basket. The following indices increased: housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (1.57 percent); health (0.37 percent); furniture, household equipment and household maintenance (0.50) and miscellaneous goods and services (0.24).

Table 1.1: National CPI and Year-on-Year Rates of Inflation by Main COICOP Groups (2008=100)

		Oct-18	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sept-19	Oct-19			
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 &Non-Alcoholic Bev.	41.86	262.55	279.31	286.00	288.59	286.36	-0.77	2.52	9.07
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	1.71	241.85	281.22	286.45	281.58	280.77	-0.29	-0.16	16.09
Clothing and Footwear	7.34	278.15	345.66	334.19	334.92	333.75	-0.35	-3.45	19.99
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	13.70	201.81	217.16	217.52	218.53	221.95	1.57	2.21	9.98
Furniture, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	5.86	285.75	362.95	351.19	356.37	358.16	0.50	-1.32	25.34
Health	11.36	228.72	311.80	345.08	331.87	333.10	0.37	6.83	45.64
Transport	7.75	220.56	250.00	244.26	250.41	250.50	0.04	0.2	13.57
Communication	2.04	147.15	165.16	171.13	155.92	155.92	0.00	-5.59	5.96
Recreation and Culture	1.47	217.34	224.49	219.31	218.37	217.99	-0.17	-2.9	0.30
Education	2.88	119.82	122.47	122.47	122.47	122.47	0.00	0	2.21
Restaurant and Hotels	0.92	270.90	294.50	292.64	328.86	327.57	-0.39	11.23	20.92
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	3.13	232.25	274.17	258.01	267.89	268.52	0.24	-2.06	15.62
All Items	100	241.26	274.35	279.34	279.86	279.49	-0.13	1.87	15.85

The National CPI measures the change in prices, on average, from month to month, of the goods and services bought by households, in Freetown, Bo, Kenema, Kono and Makeni and include all expenditure groups. Prices are collected for 400 items. All prices collected are the prevailing retail market prices from six (6) markets in Freetown and, three (3) Markets each in Bo, Kenema, Makeni and Kono for weekly prices and other outlets for monthly items whose prices are less likely to fluctuate rapidly. We are using the Modified Laspeyres formula to compute indices according to the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP) with 12 functions.

DETAILED RESULTS

Table 2.1 CPI Headline index numbers (2008=100)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2017	191.59	194.63	196.15	197.66	198.72	200.85	202.87	204.75	206.35	207.88	212.46	216.11
2018	219.73	222.65	225.40	227.58	230.55	234.13	238.79	241.99	243.02	241.26	247.62	246.90
2019	251.27	254.01	258.69	265.27	265.07	268.42	274.35	279.34	279.86	279.49		

Table 2.2 CPI Headline year-on-year rates

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2017	18.66	19.82	20.22	19.8	18.91	19.14	18.56	18.01	17.83	16.86	16.26	15.33
2018	14.69	14.4	14.91	15.14	16.02	16.57	17.71	18.19	17.77	16.06	16.55	14.25
2019	14.35	14.08	14.77	16.56	14.97	14.65	14.89	15.43	15.16	15.85		

Table 3.0: Year-on-Year and Monthly Inflation Rates (Aug-18 to Apr-19 Adjusted)

Table 3.0: Year-on-Year and Monthly Inflation Rates (Aug-18 to Apr-19 Adjuste National CPI (2008=100) Western Area/Freetown CPI (2008=100)												
	Natio	onal CPI (2008	3=100)	Western Area/Freetown CPI (2008=100)								
	СРІ	Year-on- Year % Change	Monthly Change	СРІ	Year-on – Year % Change	Monthly Change						
2016												
January	161.46	8.41	1.17	166.52	7.42	1.08						
February	162.44	8.68	0.61	167.65	7.73	0.68						
March	163.16	7.85	0.44	168.41	7.14	0.45						
April	164.99	8.68	1.12	170.35	8.12	1.15						
May	167.12	8.94	1.29	173.17	9.75	1.66						
June	168.58	9.46	0.87	174.81	10.54	0.95						
July	171.11	10.87	1.50	175.72	11.00	0.52						
August September	173.5 175.13	10.52 11.31	1.40 0.94	178.84 179.90	10.74 11.15	1.78 0.59						
October	175.13	12.56	1.58	183.08	12.3	1.76						
November	182.74	15.26	2.73	186.64	14.2	1.95						
December	187.39	17.41	2.54	192.60	16.91	3.19						
Average	171.29	10.83	1.35	176.47	10.58	1.31						
2017	171.23	10.03	1.55	170.47	10.50	1.01						
January	191.59	18.66	2.24	197.56	18.64	2.58						
February	194.63	19.82	1.59	200.70	19.72	1.59						
March	196.15	20.22	0.78	202.36	20.16	0.83						
April	197.66	19.80	0.77	204.09	19.81	0.85						
May	198.72	18.91	0.54	204.49	18.09	0.20						
June	200.85	19.14	1.07	206.40	18.07	0.93						
July	202.87	18.56	1.01	207.94	18.33	0.75						
August	204.75	18.01	0.93	209.55	17.17	0.77						
September October	206.35 207.88	17.83 16.86	0.78 0.74	211.50 212.93	17.56 16.30	0.93 0.67						
November	212.46	16.26	2.20	217.34	16.45	2.07						
December	216.11	15.33	1.72	220.98	14.74	1.67						
Average	202.50	18.28	1.20	207.99	17.92	1.15						
2018												
January	219.73	14.69	1.68	223.74	13.25	1.25						
February	222.65	14.40	1.33	226.02	12.62	1.02						
March	225.40	14.91	1.24	228.17	12.76	0.95						
April	227.58	15.14	0.97	229.58	12.49	0.62						
May	230.55	16.02	1.31	232.64	13.77	1.34						
June	234.13	16.57	1.55	235.92	14.31	1.41						
July	238.79	17.71	1.99	241.88 246.79	16.32	2.52						
August September	242.00 243.00	18.19 17.77	1.34 0.43	246.79	17.77 16.13	2.03 -0.47						
October	241.30	16.06	-0.72	242.86	14.06	-1.12						
November	247.60	16.55	2.64	250.50	15.25	3.14						
December	246.90	14.25	-0.29	247.61	12.05	-1.15						
Average	234.97	16.02	1.12	237.61	14.23	0.96						
2019												
January	251.27	14.35	1.77	249.40	11.47	0.72						
February	254.01	14.08	1.09	257.62	13.98	3.30						
March	258.69	14.77	1.84	262.29	14.95	1.81						
April	265.27	16.56	2.54	267.74	16.62	2.08						
May	265.07	14.97	-0.08	266.18	14.41	-0.58						
June	268.42	14.65	1.26	269.19	14.10	1.13						
July	274.35	14.89	2.21	271.38	12.20	0.81						
Aug	279.34	15.43	1.82	279.90	13.41	3.14						
Sept	279.86	15.16	0.19	276.56	12.59	-1.19						
Oct	279.49	15.85	-0.13	281.63	15.96	1.83						

Table 4.0: National Consumer Price Index by Main COICOP Groups (2008=100)

Table 4.0: National Consumer Price Index by Main COICO						P Groups (2008=100)							
	Food and Non- Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	Clothing and Footwear	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	Furniture, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	Health	Transport	Communication	Recreation and Culture	Education	Restaurant and Hotels	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	All Items
Weight	41.86	1.71	7.34	13.7	5.86	11.36	7.75	2.04	1.47	2.88	0.92	3.13	100
Jan-16	170.36	152.47	169.99	145.74	177.58	163.18	144.44	130.14	154.92	126.34	153.31	152.88	161.46
Feb-16	171.54	152.62	171.01	146.41	178.05	164.29	144.51	130.39	156.42	126.97	157.65	153.68	162.44
Mar-16	172.4	153.87	171.48	146.79	178.88	164.84	144.91	130.4	162.12	127.06	158.59	154.42	163.16
Apr-16	175.07	154.98	173.33	147.2	179.71	167.24	145.24	130.53	163.02	127.91	159.73	155.48	164.99
May-16	177.33	157.43	177.21	147.75	182.84	169.79	149.09	130.56	164.25	128.18	159.44	157.01	167.12
Jun-16	179.4	159.59	179.49	149.56	184.78	168.89	149.79	132.34	165.5	128.4	160.07	157.72	168.58
Jul-16	182.88	160.87	183.52	150.46	187.58	171.16	149.65	133.7	167.86	129.21	161.13	159.48	171.11
Aug-16	186.78	162.19	185.77	151.09	192.19	172.42	150.21	133.81	169.31	129.38	161.47	159.52	173.5
Sep-16	187.72	164.38	187.75	152.38	193.4	177.12	150.71	134.75	170.37	133.23	162.07	160	175.13
Oct-16	190.45	166.36	190.81	152.59	196.42	181.38	151.95	135.41	174.46	135.65	163.86	169.43	177.89
Nov-16	194.83	171.07	198.03	160.05	202.6	181.71	162.58	140.13	174.81	136.54	170.53	176.28	182.74
Dec-16	200.23	175.3	205.36	164.61	209.1	182.92	165.11	145.55	176.87	136.64	175.86	183.31	187.39
Jan-17	204.76	181.11	216.4	165.98	215.6	183.42	173.05	148.89	180.22	136.84	182.64	187.32	191.59
Feb-17	208.42	186.2	221.43	167.42	221.35	185.87	173.85	150.43	180.65	136.91	182.74	190.46	194.63
Mar-17	210.81	190.78	221.69	167.97	222.42	186.13	176.25	150.52	181.21	137.08	184.93	191.65	196.15
Apr-17	211.73	192.07	224.05	168.43	226.5	188.8	180.03	153.23	181.88	137.21	186.93	193.3	197.66
May-17	212.33	193.55	227.95	168.96	226.53	189.34	183.8	154.16	182.71	137.22	189.74	195.38	198.72
	214.56	195.64	233.71	169.47	230.04	191.33	184.16	156.1	185.35	137.51	190.92	197.51	200.85
Jun-17													
Jul-17	217.85	197.43	234.78	169.8	231.65	193	184.7	156.96	185.8	137.65	192.15	199.62	202.87
Aug-17	220.49	202.41	235.42	170.01	234.36	194.21	185.1	157.52	186.46	138.55	195.97	203.91	204.75
Sept-17	221.96	204.02	237.81	170.27	237.6	196.62	186.54	160.62	187.72	138.85	199.6	205.61	206.35
Oct-17	223.88	206.03	239.05	170.71	240.1	197.87	187.36	161.93	190.35	139.17	203.05	207.79	207.88
Nov-17	231.59	209.96	242.24	172.65	242.46	199.36	187.63	163.72	193.65	141.25	205.38	212.08	212.46
Dec-17	236.14	215.57	248.21	174.79	246.89	201.37	188.95	164.78	196.29	143.49	211.1	214.87	216.11
Jan-18	240.61	218.27	251.93	176.68	249.13	205.92	190.98	165.94	198.83	147.19	214.47	217.67	219.73
Feb-18	243.6	222.52	254.76	178.69	254.02	209.47	191.54	170.77	201.11	148.5	220.16	220.6	222.65
Mar-18	246.07	226.68	257.38	180.06	260.28	213.6	192.93	171.25	205.24	150.83	225.93	224.25	225.4
Apr-18	248.17	229.31	258.64	181.16	262.12	217.72	193.83	172.23	207.54	152.61	230.49	228.49	227.58
May-18	252.09	232.24	262.07	183.59	263.81	219.84	195.17	172.8	209.48	153.13	234.05	231.32	230.55
Jun-18	256.72	236.77	265.64	185.6	268.26	223.15	196.28	173.87	211.05	154.68	238.77	234.5	234.13
Jul-18	259.39	240.41	267.99	197.69	274.18	226.57	211.78	175.02	212.51	155.74	244.95	235.47	238.79
Aug-18	264.13	243.64	274.6	202.29	289.45	224.45	215.98	144.21	212.73	157.46	254.01	231.41	241.99
Sep-18	266.47	249.53	275.38	203.96	283.93	226.97	219.94	146.47	219.42	119.82	251.8	240.5	243.02
Oct-18	262.55	241.85	278.15	201.81	285.75	228.72	220.56	147.15	217.34	119.82	270.9	232.25	241.26
Nov-18	270.26	256.4	286.95	207.29	290.83	232.6	223.78	148.09	222.5	120.55	258.64	243.09	247.62
Dec-18	266.29	250.55	283.81	208.13	284.5	246.04	229.18	144.51	215.92	120.55	289.65	227.76	246.9
Jan-19	266.00	260.05	311.87	209.80	294.04	253.14	227.03	145.37	224.03	120.97	279.86	244.01	251.27
Feb-19	269.18	264.64	309.94	209.37	309.97	253.94	225.81	160.61	240.73	121.66	280.52	248.62	254.01
Mar-19	276.29	267.26	316.58	212.03	314.69	257.44	226.29	159.17	231.29	122.27	286.81	250.51	258.69
Apr-19	287.67	280.13	321.05	216.88	322.77	252.71	230.26	159.29	236.17	123.45	284.89	259.34	265.27
May-19	271.03	274.68	331.20	211.64	348.38	291.15	235.67	176.63	227.26	134.65	279.30	267.67	265.07
Jun -19	273.74	275.25	338.34	211.26	359.29	303.77	237.49	178.37	222.02	122.47	281.26	265.58	268.42
Jul-19	279.31	281.22	345.66	217.16	362.95	311.80	250.00	165.16	224.49	122.47	294.50	274.17	274.35
Aug-19	286.00	286.45	334.19	217.52	351.19	345.08	244.26	171.13	219.31	122.47	292.64	258.01	279.34
Sept- 19	288.59	281.58	334.92	218.53	356.37	331.87	250.41	155.92	218.37	122.47	328.86	267.89	279.86
Oct- 19	286.36	280.77	333.75	221.95	358.16	333.1	250.5	155.92	217.99	122.47	327.57	268.52	279.49
	I	I	1			1	1	1					