



**STATISTICS SIERRA LEONE**  
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# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MAY 2020

## PRESS RELEASE

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**15<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

# CONTENTS

Contents.....	i
Key Finding.....	ii
Detailed Explanation on the May, 2020 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
Table 1.2: 2020 Monthly Food and Non-food baskets inflation rates.....	3
Detailed Results.....	3
Table 2.0: CPI Headline Index Numbers (2008=100).....	4
Table 2.1: CPI Headline Year-On-Year Rates.....	4
Table 3.0: Year-on-Year and Monthly Inflation Rates.....	5
Table 4.0: National Consumer Price Index by Main COICOP Groups (2008=100).....	6

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## KEY FINDINGS

### Headline National Inflation Rate

Annual National Consumer Price Inflation year-on-year (YOY) went up by 0.39 percentage point from 15.08 percent in April 2020 to 15.47 percent in May 2020.

The monthly consumer price inflation month-on-month (MOM) for May 2020 is 0.26 percent; went down by 1.86 percentage point from 2.12 percent in April, 2020.

### Contributions to headline annual (YOY) consumer price inflation

- ✓ Food and non-alcoholic beverages increased from 10.54 percent in April 2020 to 16.60 percent in May 2020. The inflation rate increased by 6.06 percentage points year-on-year.
- ✓ Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics increased from 1.62 percent in April 2020 to 4.44 percent in May 2020. The inflation rate increased by 2.82 percentage points year-on-year.
- ✓ Clothing and footwear declined by 2.14 percentage points from 10.43 percent in April 2020 to 8.29 percent in May 2020.
- ✓ Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels increased from 1.98 percent in April 2020 to 5.69 percent in May 2020. The inflation rate increased by 3.71 percentage points year-on-year.
- ✓ Furniture, household equipment and household maintenance declined by 7.38 percentage points from 7.66 percent in April 2020 to 0.28 percent in May 2020.
- ✓ Health declined by 18.70 percentage points from 52.31 percent in April 2020 to 33.61 percent in May 2020
- ✓ Transport declined by 2.23 percentage points from 14.09 percent in April 2020 to 11.86 percent in May 2020.
- ✓ Recreation and Culture increased from -1.11 percent in April 2020 to 2.90 percent in May 2020. The inflation rate increased by 4.01 percentage points year-on-year.
- ✓ Education declined by 13.92 percentage points from 67.33 percent in April 2020 to 53.41 percent in May 2020.
- ✓ Restaurant and hotels increased from 22.54 percent in April 2020 to 27.90 percent in May 2020. The inflation rate increased by 5.36 percentage points year-on-year.
- ✓ Miscellaneous goods and services declined by 1.88 percentage points from 8.32 percent in April 2020 to 6.44 percent in May 2020.

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## Contributions to monthly consumer price inflation (MOM)

- ✓ Food and non-alcoholic beverages declined by 5.37 percentage points from 4.75 percent in April 2020 to -0.62 percent in May 2020.
- ✓ Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics declined by 1.08 percentage point from 1.86 percent in April 2020 to 0.78 percent in May 2020.
- ✓ Clothing and footwear declined by 0.34 percentage point from 1.50 percent in April 2020 to 1.16 percent in May 2020.
- ✓ Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels increased from -3.56 percent in April 2020 to 1.13 percent in May 2020. The inflation rate increased by 4.69 percentage point.
- ✓ Furniture, household equipment and household maintenance declined by 1.42 percentage point from 1.96 percent in April 2020 to 0.54 percent in May 2020.
- ✓ Health increased from 0.71 percent in April 2020 to 1.07 percent in May 2020. The inflation rate increased by 0.36 percentage point.
- ✓ Transport increased from -1.20 percent in April 2020 to 0.34 percent in May 2020. The inflation rate increased by 1.54 percentage point year-on-year
- ✓ Communication increased from 0.01 percent in April 2020 to 0.86 percent in May 2020. The inflation rate increased by 0.85 percentage point.
- ✓ Recreation and Culture declined by 0.80 percentage point from 0.92 percent in April 2020 to 0.12 percent in May 2020.
- ✓ For Education, no change is noticed between April, 2020 and May, 2020.
- ✓ Restaurants and hotels increased from 1.31 percent in April 2020 to 2.33 percent in May 2020. The inflation rate increased by 1.02 percentage point.
- ✓ Miscellaneous goods and services increased from 1.26 percent in April 2020 to 1.42 percent in May 2020. The inflation rate increased by 0.16 percentage point.

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# DETAILED EXPLANATION ON THE MAY, 2020 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)

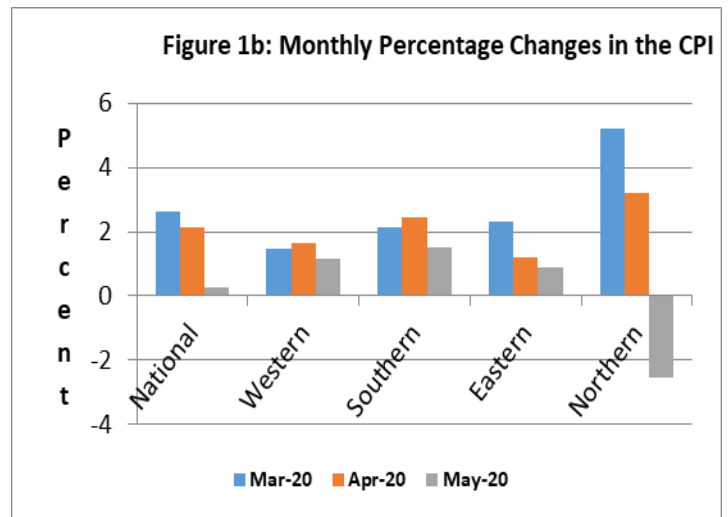
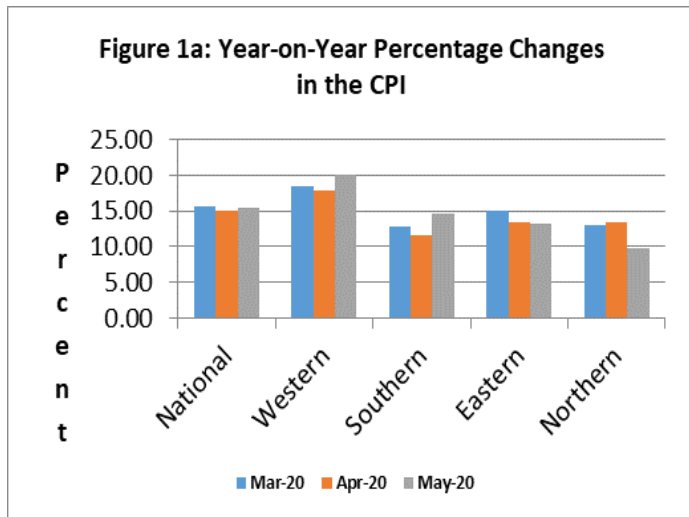
The National Monthly CPI (2008=100) increased from 305.28 in April 2020 to 306.07 in May 2020 resulting to 0.26 percent inflation this month. The national year-on-year inflation for May 2020 is 15.47 percent, which indicates an upward trend compared to 15.08 percent in April 2020. The Western Area shows an upward movement from 17.94 percent in April 2020 to 20.00 percent in May 2020 followed by Southern region from 11.62 percent in April 2020 to 14.59 percent in May 2020 while the other two regions show a decline: Eastern region from 13.49 percent in April 2020 to 13.22 percent in May 2020 and Northern region from 13.50 percent in April 2020 to 9.70 percent in May 2020.

**Table 1.0: National & Regional Year-on-Year and Monthly Inflation Rates**

2008=100										
Month	National		Western Area		Eastern Region		Southern Region		Northern Region	
	Year-on-Year	Monthly	Year-on-Year	Monthly	Year-on-Year	Monthly	Year-on-Year	Monthly	Year-on-Year	Monthly
Apr, 2020	15.08	2.12	<b>17.94</b>	1.66	13.49	1.22	11.62	2.47	13.50	3.21
May, 2020	15.47	0.26	20.00	1.15	13.22	0.87	14.59	1.53	9.70	-2.53

It is observed from the table above that the year-on-year inflation rates for the Western Area is above the national estimate for the month of May, 2020 while Eastern, Northern and Southern 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 May, 2019 and May, 2020; 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 0.26 percent reflects a general change in the price level in all the four regions which affected all of the items in the CPI basket. In May, the indices of the following groups increased: housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels to 1.13 percent; health to 1.07 percent; transport to 0.34 percent; communication to 0.86 percent; hotel and restaurants to 2.33 percent and miscellaneous goods and services to 1.42 percent.

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

COICOP	WEIGHT	May-19	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Monthly Inflation	3 Months Change Inflation	12 Months Inflation
		Previous Year- Month	Month m-3 for Current Year	Month m-2 for Current Year	Month m-1 for Current Year	Month m for Current Year			
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverage	41.86	271.03	291.53	303.57	317.98	316.02	-0.62	8.4	16.60
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics	1.71	274.68	275.23	279.46	284.66	286.87	0.78	4.23	4.44
Clothing and Footwear	7.34	331.20	341.22	349.30	354.54	358.67	1.16	5.11	8.29
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	13.70	211.64	233.51	229.35	221.18	223.69	1.13	-4.21	5.69
Furniture, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	5.86	348.38	335.71	340.80	347.49	349.37	0.54	4.07	0.28
Health	11.36	291.15	371.28	382.19	384.89	389.01	1.07	4.78	33.61
Transport	7.75	235.67	268.79	265.91	262.71	263.61	0.34	-1.93	11.86
Communication	2.04	176.63	163.83	172.83	172.84	174.33	0.86	6.41	-1.30
Recreation and Culture	1.47	227.26	224.43	231.42	233.56	233.85	0.12	4.2	2.90
Education	2.88	134.65	206.57	206.57	206.57	206.57	0.00	0.00	53.41
Restaurant and Hotels	0.92	279.30	336.83	344.58	349.09	357.22	2.33	6.05	27.90
Miscellaneous Goods and Services	3.13	267.67	266.44	277.43	280.92	284.91	1.42	6.93	6.44
All Items	<b>100</b>	<b>265.07</b>	<b>291.33</b>	<b>298.95</b>	<b>305.28</b>	<b>306.07</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>5.06</b>	<b>15.47</b>

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 at least 436 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.

## Food and Non-Food Components

Food items (Food and non-alcoholic beverages) YOY inflation increased by more than 6.0 percentage points from 10.54 percent in April 2020 to 16.60 percent in May 2020; while the MOM declined by 5.37 percentage points. Non-food items inflation decreased by 4.50 percentage points from 19.08 in April 2020 to 14.58 percent in May 2020. The most downward movers in the non-food basket were Health (by 18.70 percentage points), Education (by 13.92 percentage points) and communication (by 9.81 percentage points).

**Table 1.2: 2020 Monthly Food and Non-food baskets inflation rates**

Items	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May
Food and Non-alcoholic beverages	7.46	8.30	9.87	10.54	16.60
Non-food	18.77	20.08	20.44	19.08	14.58

## DETAILED RESULTS

**Table 2.0: CPI Headline Index Numbers (2008=100)**

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
<b>2018</b>	219.73	222.65	225.40	227.58	230.55	234.13	238.79	241.99	243.02	241.26	247.62	246.90
<b>2019</b>	251.27	254.01	258.69	265.27	265.07	268.42	274.35	279.34	279.86	279.49	280.04	281.20
<b>2020</b>	285.45	291.33	298.95	305.28	306.07							

**Table 2.1: CPI Headline Year-On-Year Rates**

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
<b>2018</b>	14.69	14.4	14.91	15.14	16.02	16.57	17.71	18.19	17.77	16.06	16.55	14.25
<b>2019</b>	14.35	14.08	14.77	16.56	14.97	14.65	14.89	15.43	15.16	15.85	13.09	13.89
<b>2020</b>	13.60	14.69	15.56	15.08	15.47							

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**Table 3.0: Year-on-Year and Monthly Inflation Rates**

	National CPI (2008=100)			Western Area/Freetown CPI (2008=100)		
	CPI	Year-on-Year % Change	Monthly Change	CPI	Year-on-Year % Change	Monthly Change
<b>2016</b>						
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	173.5	10.52	1.40	178.84	10.74	1.78
September	175.13	11.31	0.94	179.90	11.15	0.59
October	177.89	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
<b>Average</b>	<b>171.29</b>	<b>10.83</b>	<b>1.35</b>	<b>176.47</b>	<b>10.58</b>	<b>1.31</b>
<b>2017</b>						
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	206.35	17.83	0.78	211.50	17.56	0.93
October	207.88	16.86	0.74	212.93	16.30	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
<b>Average</b>	<b>202.50</b>	<b>18.28</b>	<b>1.20</b>	<b>207.99</b>	<b>17.92</b>	<b>1.15</b>
<b>2018</b>						
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	16.32	2.52
August	242.00	18.19	1.34	246.79	17.77	2.03
September	243.00	17.77	0.43	245.62	16.13	-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
<b>Average</b>	<b>234.97</b>	<b>16.02</b>	<b>1.12</b>	<b>237.61</b>	<b>14.23</b>	<b>0.96</b>
<b>2019</b>						
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
August	279.34	15.43	1.82	279.90	13.41	3.14
September	279.86	15.16	0.19	276.56	12.59	-1.19
October	279.49	15.85	-0.13	281.63	15.96	1.83
November	280.04	13.09	0.20	289.71	15.66	2.87
December	281.20	13.89	0.41	294.07	18.76	1.50
<b>Average</b>	<b>269.75</b>	<b>14.81</b>	<b>1.09</b>	<b>272.14</b>	<b>14.51</b>	<b>1.45</b>
<b>2020</b>						
January	285.45	13.60	1.51	299.50	20.09	1.84
February	291.33	14.69	2.06	306.04	18.79	2.18
March	298.95	15.56	2.62	310.61	18.42	1.49
April	305.28	15.08	2.12	315.76	17.94	1.66
May	306.07	15.47	0.26	319.41	20.00	1.15

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**Table 4.0: National Consumer Price Index by Main COICOP 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
Jun-17	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
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

**Table 4.0: National Consumer Price Index by Main COICOP 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
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
Nov- 19	280.04	269.2	333.1	226.15	344.01	343.26	249.99	155.92	223.13	206.57	318.96	263.91	280.04
Dec- 19	280.62	279.46	328.60	229.75	347.76	344.33	255.46	155.90	222.51	206.57	318.99	263.45	281.20
Jan- 20	285.84	288.03	337.24	231.49	347.52	342.89	267.38	155.87	223.65	206.57	339.5	270.3	285.45
Feb-20	291.53	275.23	341.22	233.51	335.71	371.28	268.79	163.83	224.43	206.57	336.83	266.44	291.33
Mar-20	303.57	279.46	349.3	229.35	340.8	382.19	265.91	172.83	231.42	206.57	344.58	277.43	298.95
Apr-20	317.98	284.66	354.54	221.18	347.49	384.89	262.71	172.84	233.56	206.57	349.09	280.92	305.28
May-20	316.02	286.87	358.67	223.69	349.37	389.01	263.61	174.33	233.85	206.57	357.22	284.91	306.07