



SPECIAL RELEASE

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR BOTTOM 30% INCOME HOUSEHOLDS (2000=100)

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YEAR-ON-YEAR

Philippines

The continued deceleration in the annual increment of the heavily-weighted food, beverages, and tobacco (FBT) index pushed down further the Philippines' year-on-year inflation for the bottom 30% income households in January 2019 at

5.9 percent. In the previous month, annual inflation settled to 7.2 percent, while in the same month of the previous year, it was posted at 4.7 percent. Inflation of the FBT index during the month was observed at 6.7 percent.

Year-on-Year Inflation Rates of the CPI for the Bottom 30%
Income Households, All Items
In Percent

Area	January 2019	December 2018	January 2018	Year-to-date
Philippines	5.9	7.2	4.7	5.9
NCR	4.0	4.8	5.6	4.0
AONCR	5.9	7.3	4.7	5.9

Also contributing to the downtrend in the country's inflation rate for the income group were the slowing down of the annual mark-ups in the indices of housing and repairs (H&R) at 4.6 percent; fuel, light and water (FLW), 3.4 percent; and services, 3.5 percent. Meanwhile, the indices of clothing and miscellaneous retained their previous month's annual increases of 3.1 percent and 2.4 percent, respectively (see Tables 3 and 4).

The annual inflation rate for food index at the national level eased further to 5.8 percent in January 2019. Its annual rate was recorded at 7.1 percent in the previous month and 4.8 percent in January 2018 (see Tables 5 and 7).



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The index of corn exhibited an annual decline of 0.7 percent during the month. Moreover, all the other food groups registered slower annual growth in January 2019 (see Table 5).

**Year-on-Year Inflation Rates of the CPI for Bottom 30% Income Households in the
Philippines, All Items
January 2015 – January 2019
(2000=100)
In Percent**

Month	Year				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
January	3.8	1.0	2.4	4.7	5.9
February	2.9	1.0	3.0	5.4	
March	2.6	1.2	3.0	5.8	
April	2.5	1.0	2.9	6.3	
May	2.1	1.1	2.6	6.4	
June	1.5	1.4	2.6	6.7	
July	0.8	1.3	2.7	7.6	
August	0.4	1.3	3.0	8.3	
September	0.1	1.6	3.3	9.5	
October	0.4	1.7	3.4	9.5	
November	0.9	2.0	3.4	8.3	
December	1.1	2.1	3.7	7.2	
Average	1.6	1.4	3.0	7.2	

National Capital Region (NCR)

The annual inflation in NCR decelerated further to 4.0 percent in January 2019. In the previous month, inflation was pegged at 4.8 percent, while in January 2018, the annual rate was posted at 5.6 percent. The H&R index exhibited an annual drop of 0.01 percent. All the other commodity groups registered slower annual hikes during the month (see Tables 3 and 4).

The annual gain for food index in NCR eased to 3.2 percent during the month. In December 2018, inflation of the food index in the area settled to 3.6 percent, while in January 2018, it was recorded at 4.9 percent (see Tables 5 and 7).

Negative annual rates were still observed in the indices of rice at 1.7 percent and corn at 17.5 percent. In addition, slower annual upticks were noted in the indices of eggs at 1.5 percent; fish, 6.6 percent; meat, 3.0 percent; and miscellaneous foods, 4.4 percent. On the other hand, annual mark-ups in the indices of dairy products, and fruits and vegetables were correspondingly higher at 9.8 percent and 3.2 percent. Cereal preparations index retained its previous month's annual growth of 3.7 percent (see Table 5).

Areas Outside National Capital Region (AONCR)

Following the trend at the national level and in NCR, inflation in AONCR for the bottom 30% income households slowed down further to 5.9 percent in January 2019. In the previous month, its annual rate was pegged at 7.3 percent, while in January 2018, it was noted at 4.7 percent.

Slower annual hikes were seen in the indices of FBT at 6.7 percent; H&R, 4.6 percent; FLW, 3.3 percent; and services, 3.5 percent. Meanwhile, the indices of clothing and miscellaneous retained their previous month's annual rates of 3.2 percent and 2.4 percent, respectively (see Tables 3 and 4).

Relative to their annual gains in the previous month, all the regions had slower annual rates during the month. The lowest year-on-year growth of 2.7 percent was still noticed in Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), while the highest rate of 11.8 percent remained in MIMAROPA Region (see Table 4).

Annual inflation of the food index in AONCR slid further to 5.8 percent in January 2019. Its annual rate settled to 7.1 percent in the previous month and 4.8 percent in January 2018 (see Tables 5 and 7).

An annual drop of 0.7 percent was posted in corn index. Except for cereal preparations index which retained its previous month's annual rate of 4.1 percent, the rest of the food groups had slower annual upticks during the month (see Table 5).

Note: Monthly CPIs for the bottom 30% income households by province and selected cities are also available upon request at PSA, Price Statistics Division (Telephone Number: (02) 376-1959)

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