

# UPDATES ON WEB SCRAPING OF PRICES FOR THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

Philippine Statistics Authority  
29 October 2024



# OUTLINE

- I. Introduction
- II. Objective
- III. Methodology
- IV. Results and Findings
- V. Recommendations

### I. INTRODUCTION

- Collection of data for price surveys has always been done by visiting the physical stores, recording the prices using pen and paper or handheld electronic device.
- In 2019, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) started exploring web scraping as an alternative price collection technique for the generation of the 2012-based Consumer Price Index (CPI). The study was timely as the online stores became more popular to consumers amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

## II. OBJECTIVE

- The purpose of this exercise is to look into the possibility of using prices from online stores as input in the generation of monthly CPI in National Capital Region (NCR).

## II. OBJECTIVE

- **Specific Objective 1:** To compare the price movements and trends of official CPI with computed CPI using online prices with respect to the number of online stores. To accomplish this, the following computations were done:
  - **1a (All Stores)** – The monthly average price of each commodity is computed using online prices collected from all covered online stores.
  - **1b (One Store)** – The monthly average price for each commodity is the price reported by only one online store. The store is selected based on the availability and consistency of price of sample commodity.

## II. OBJECTIVE

- **Specific Objective 2:** To compare the price movements and trends of official CPI with computed CPI using online prices with respect to the similarity of commodity specification. To accomplish this, the following computations were done:
  - **2a (Exact Specification)** – The subclass CPI is computed using only the online prices of commodities with exact same specifications with that from the CPI market basket regardless of the number of online stores.
  - **2b (Equivalent Specification)** – The subclass CPI is computed using online prices of commodities with similar specifications with that from the CPI market basket.

## II. OBJECTIVE

- **Specific Objective 3:** To compare the price movements and trends of official CPI with computed CPI using a combination of offline and online prices. To accomplish this, the following computations were done:
- **3a (Hybrid1)** – The CPI is computed using the price collected through survey and web scraped price data. The online prices come from the commodities with exact or similar specifications with that of the CPI market basket, regardless the number of online stores where these were collected.
- **3b (Hybrid2)** - The CPI is computed using the price collected through survey and web scraped price data. The online prices come from the commodities with exact specifications with that of the CPI market basket, regardless the number of online stores.

### III. METHODOLOGY

<b>Geographic Coverage</b>	NCR
<b>Frequency and Schedule of Price Collection</b>	Daily (except in weekends)
<b>ample Markets</b>	13 online stores in NCR (Abensons, Ace Hardware, Ansons, Lazada, Merry Mart, National Bookstore, PushKart, Shopee, Watsons, Western Appliance, Wilcon, Zagana, Zalora)
<b>Number of URLs</b>	1,354
<b>Period Covered</b>	February 2020 to December 2021



### III. METHODOLOGY

#### SAMPLE MARKETS:



### III. METHODOLOGY

#### WEB SCRAPING APPLICATION

The web scraping application was developed in-house using Python and BeautifulSoup. The user-interface of the application utilizes Mozilla Firefox, where the launcher and uniform resource locator (URL) of the target commodities are saved.

### III. METHODOLOGY

**WEB SCRAPING  
APPLICATION:  
FOLDERS**

CPI WebScaper Home Single Product Multiple Products

### Single Products Add Product

Show 10 entries Search:

Include	Name	Total Urls	Action
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">abensons</a>	22	Delete
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">ansons</a>	21	Delete
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">pushkart</a>	82	Delete
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">acehardware</a>	25	Delete
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">waltermart</a>	79	Delete
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">watsons</a>	61	Delete
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">wilcon</a>	20	Delete
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">zalora</a>	16	Delete
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">nationalbookstore</a>	37	Delete
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">zagana</a>	31	Delete

Showing 1 to 10 of 26 entries

Previous 1 2 3 Next

### III. METHODOLOGY

**WEB SCRAPING  
APPLICATION:  
HTML STRUCTURE**

#### HTML Structure and Listed Urls : [abensons](#)

HTML Structure

Folder:

Description Element:

Subdetails Element:

Price Element

Sale Price Element

[Save Changes](#) [Return](#)

List of Urls: [Add Url](#)

Show  entries Search:

Url	Action
<a href="https://www.abenson.com/apple-ipad-mini-5-wi-fi-64gb-space-gray.html">https://www.abenson.com/apple-ipad-mini-5-wi-fi-64gb-space-gray.html</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>
<a href="https://www.abenson.com/condura-ctd700mni.html">https://www.abenson.com/condura-ctd700mni.html</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>
<a href="https://www.abenson.com/dowell-di-583ns.html">https://www.abenson.com/dowell-di-583ns.html</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>
<a href="https://www.abenson.com/es-w600.html">https://www.abenson.com/es-w600.html</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>
<a href="https://www.abenson.com/f-40dyp.html">https://www.abenson.com/f-40dyp.html</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>
<a href="https://www.abenson.com/gs-600.html">https://www.abenson.com/gs-600.html</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>
<a href="https://www.abenson.com/hi-89.html">https://www.abenson.com/hi-89.html</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>
<a href="https://www.abenson.com/l1-ls-l2.html">https://www.abenson.com/l1-ls-l2.html</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>
<a href="https://www.abenson.com/la-germania-e-726-w.html">https://www.abenson.com/la-germania-e-726-w.html</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>
<a href="https://www.abenson.com/panasonic-na-s6518bsp.html">https://www.abenson.com/panasonic-na-s6518bsp.html</a>	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>

### III. METHODOLOGY

CPI WebScaper [Home](#) [Single Product](#) [Multiple Products](#)

#### Scraping Complete

Type	Action	Message
Single	Initialized	abensons -- Scraping Initialized
Single	Completed	abensons -- Scraping Complete

[Return to Homepage](#)

**WEB SCRAPING  
APPLICATION:  
COMPLETION PROMPT**

### III. METHODOLOGY

**WEB SCRAPING  
APPLICATION:  
SAMPLE OUTPUT**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Url	Description	Sub Details	Price	Sale Price		
2	https://wv	APPLE IPAD MINI 5 WI-FI	Item is discontinued.		23,990		
3	https://wv	CONDURA CTD700MNI	Item is discontinued.	19,997			
4	https://wv	DOWELL DI 583NS	SKU 161693	798			
5	https://wv	SHARP ES-W600	SKU 112944	3,997			
6	https://wv	PANASONIC F-40DYP	SKU 56136		1,748		
7	https://wv	HANABISHI GS 600	SKU 3776		648		
8	https://wv	HANABISHI HI-89	SKU 96012		698		
9	https://wv	PANASONIC NA-S6518BSP	SKU 161243	4,799			
10	https://wv	ASAHI RB-6004	SKU 118847		2,098		
11	https://wv	STANDARD SDS 12W	SKU 135746		1,298		
12	https://wv	STANDARD SGS 235S 2B	SKU 136929		1,998		
13	https://wv	SHARP SJ DTH55BS SL	Item is discontinued.	11,697			
14	https://wv	SONY KDL 32R307F	Item is discontinued.	14,499			
15	https://wv	CANON POWERSHOT SX620HS	SKU 144585	15,198			
16	https://wv	TEFAL RK104E	SKU 163548		3,895		
17	https://wv	TEFAL RK7405	SKU 161277		8,995		
18	https://wv	TEFAL RK8145	SKU 161278		10,995		
19	https://wv	LA GERMANIA E-726 W	SKU 170556	6,798			
20	https://wv	TEKNO TKX- 180	SKU 164815	648			
21	https://wv	TEKNO TKX-780	SKU 164814	1,278			
22	https://wv	KELVINATOR WKELH010EA	SKU 147117	18,498			
23							
24							
25							
26							
27							

### III. METHODOLOGY

**Table 1. Number of URLs by Store and Commodity Division**

Name of Online Stores	No. of URLs	Commodity Division Code									
		01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,354</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>254</b>
Abensons	16					13				3	
Ace Hardware	15				4	11					
Ansons	12					11				1	
Lazada	552	155	11	39	14	87	16	2	3	107	118
Merry Mart	3	1	1				1				
National Bookstore	23									23	
PushKart	74	65	1			1					7
Shopee	539	151	2	43	14	84	16	3	5	96	125
Watsons	45						41				4
Western Appliance	17					16				1	
Wilcon	16				6	8				2	
Zalora	12			12							
Zagana	30	30									

**Legend:**

01 – Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages  
 02 – Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco  
 03 – Clothing and Footwear

04 – Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels  
 05 – Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House

06 – Health  
 07 – Transport  
 08 – Communication

09 – Recreation and Culture  
 11 – Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods and Services

### III. METHODOLOGY

**Table 2. Number of Commodities by Division**

Division		CPI Market Basket	No. of Commodities Web Scraped	% to Total
01	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	238	183	25
02	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	12	10	1
03	Clothing and Footwear	64	41	6
04	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	45	14	2
05	Furnishing, Household Equipment, and Routine Household Maintenance	90	85	12
06	Health	56	41	6
07	Transport	23	2	0.3
08	Communication	19	2	0.3
09	Recreation and Culture	81	64	9
10	Education	12	-	-
11	Restaurant and Hotels	80	75	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>720</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>71.6</b>



### III. METHODOLOGY

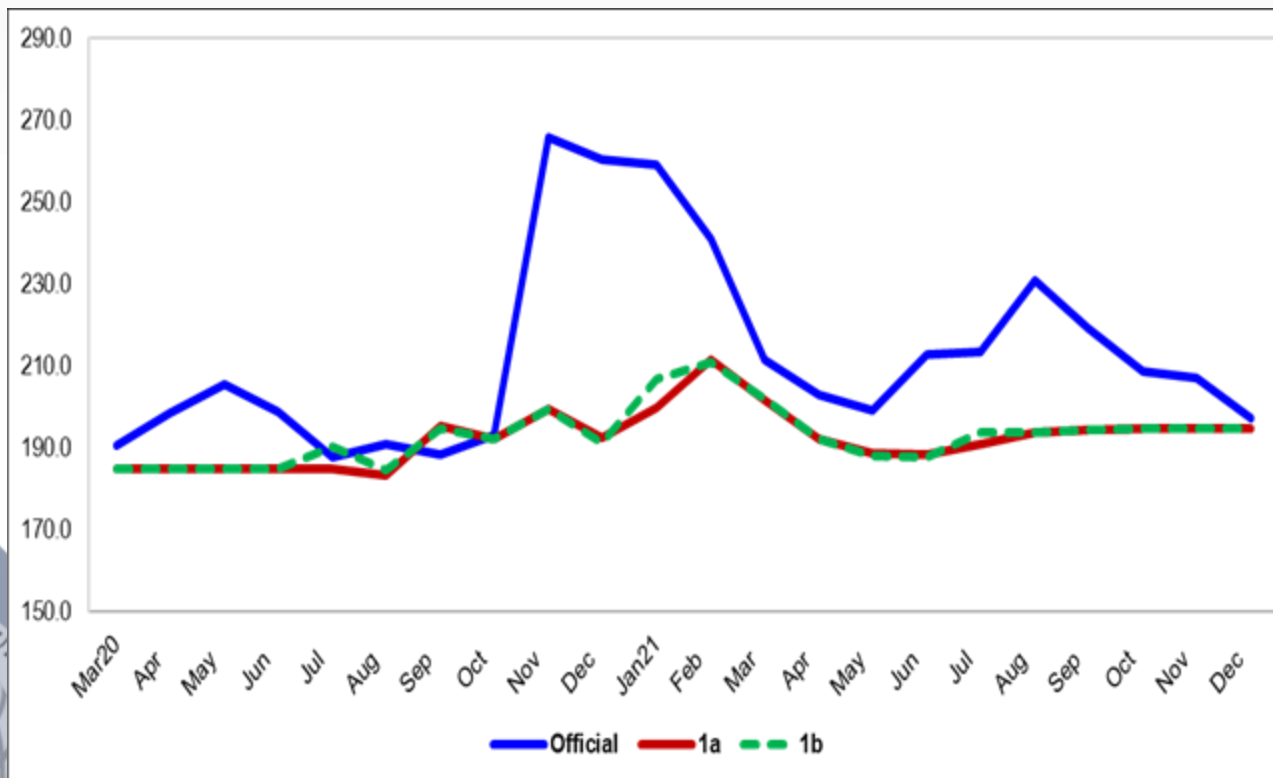
**Table 3. Count of Subclass and Class with Complete Commodities via Online**

Division	No. of subclass			No. of Class		
	Offline	Online	With complete commodities via online	Offline	Online	With complete subclasses via online
01 – Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	60	57	41	11	11	3
02 – Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	7	7	6	4	4	3
03 – Clothing and Footwear	18	12	10	6	3	1
04 – Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	15	3	2	8	1	-
05 – Furnishing, Household Equipment, and Routine Household Maintenance	28	26	24	11	9	7
06 – Health	16	8	6	7	3	2
07 – Transport	15	2	2	10	2	1
08 – Communication	9	1	1	3	1	-
09 – Recreation and Culture	29	21	18	17	11	6
10 – Education	9	-	-	8	-	-
11 – Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	16	11	11	7	4	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>26</b>

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 1 – Subclass Level

Figure 1. CPI Trends for Leafy Vegetables



Official: Consists of 11 commodities

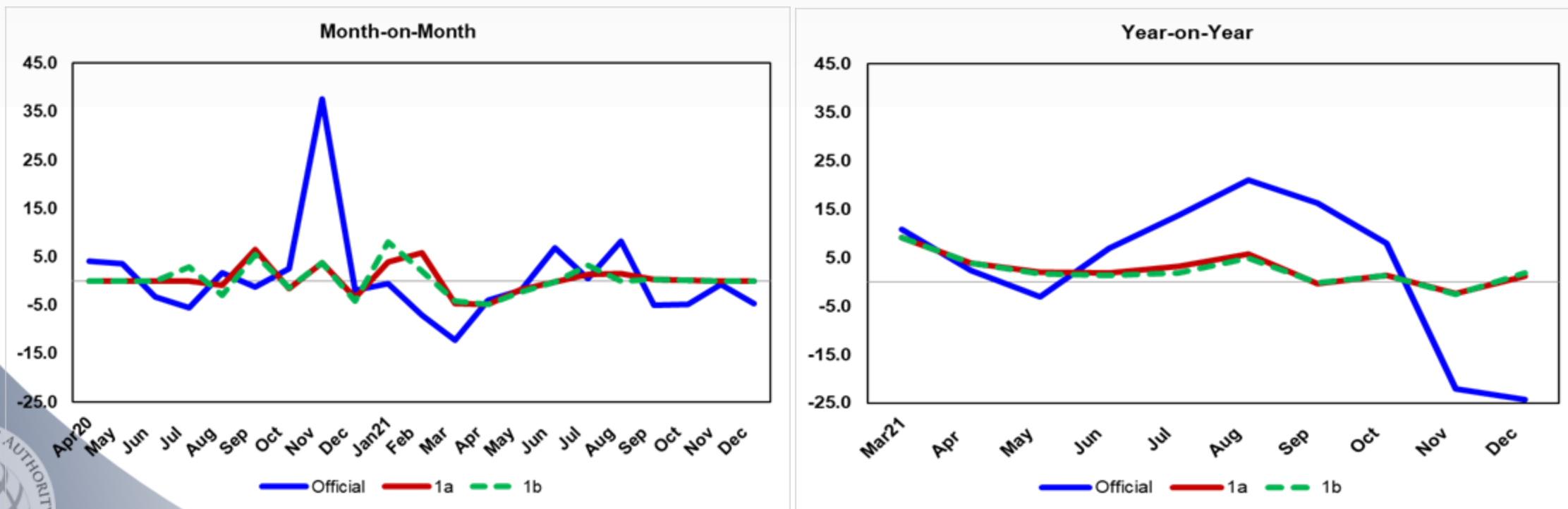
1a : Consists of 4 commodities collected from all available stores for each commodity.

1b : Consists of 4 commodities collected from one sample online store for each commodity.

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 1 – Subclass Level

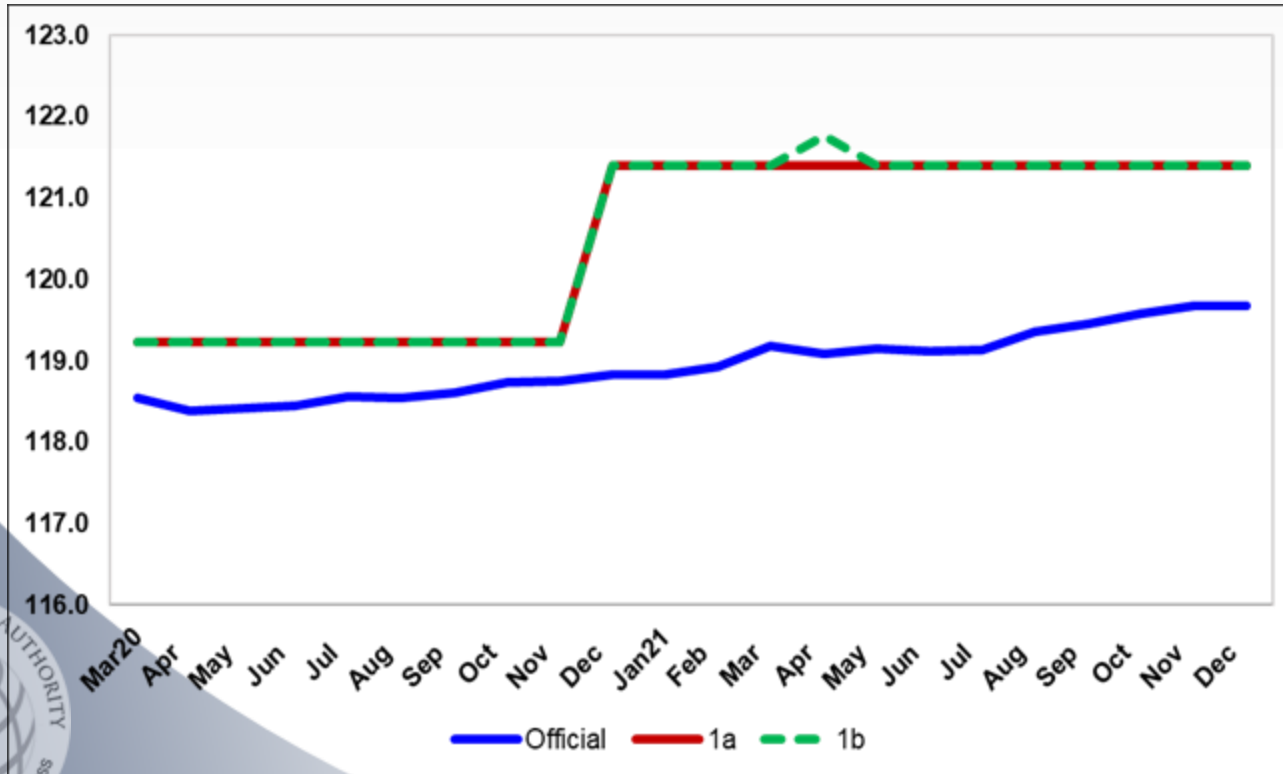
Figure 2. Month-on-month & Year-on-year Growth Rates of CPI for Leafy Vegetables



### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 1 – Subclass Level

Figure 3. CPI Trends for Cardiovascular Drugs



**Official:** Consists of 4 commodities

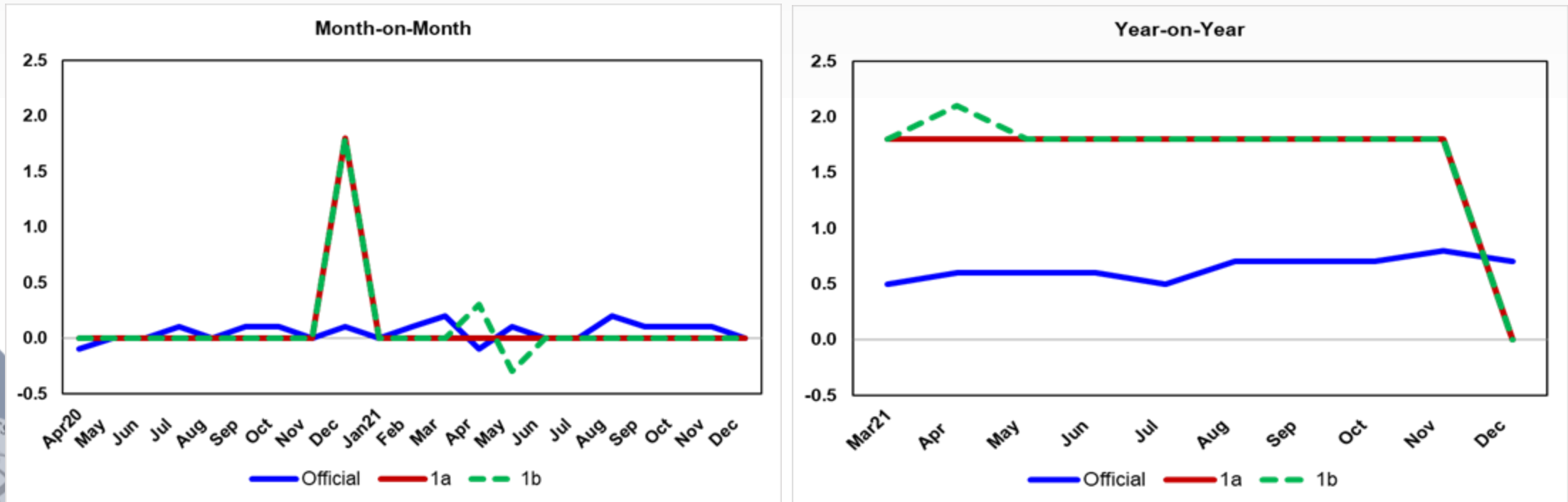
**1a :** Consists of 3 commodities collected from all available stores for each commodity.

**1b :** Consists of 3 commodities collected from one sample online store for each commodity.

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 1 – Subclass Level

Figure 4. Month-on-month & Year-on-year Growth Rates of CPI for Cardiovascular Drugs



### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 1 – Subclass Level

**Table 4. Absolute Deviations at the Subclass Level**

Description	Online		Official		Absolute Deviation from the Official CPI				Period with Highest Deviation
	Mar 2020	Dec 2021	Mar 2020	Dec 2021	Lowest	Highest	Range	Average	
<b>1a (All Stores)</b>									
Fresh, chilled, frozen or dried vegetables cultivated for their leaves or stalks	185.0	194.6	190.7	197.3	1.02	68.16	67.14	21.05	Dec. 2020
Cardiovascular drugs	119.2	121.4	118.5	119.7	0.48	2.57	2.09	1.56	Dec. 2020
<b>1b (One Store)</b>									
Fresh, chilled, frozen or dried vegetables cultivated for their leaves or stalks	185.0	194.6	190.7	197.3	1.04	69.42	68.38	20.67	Dec. 2020
Cardiovascular drugs	119.2	121.4	118.5	119.7	0.48	2.69	2.21	1.58	Apr. 2021

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 1 – Subclass Level

**Table 5. Mean Absolute Deviations at the Subclass Level**

Mean Absolute Deviation (in Percentage Point)	Number of Subclasses			
	1a (All Stores)		1b (One Store)	
	Count	%	Count	%
0.00 – 0.99	21	14	21	14
1.00 – 1.99	26	18	26	18
2.00 – 2.99	20	13	19	13
3.00 – 3.99	22	15	23	15
4.00 and higher	59	40	59	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>100</b>

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 1 – Subclass Level

**Table 6. Range of Absolute Deviations at the Subclass Level**

Range of Absolute Deviations (in Percentage Point)	Number of Subclasses			
	1a (All Stores)		1b (One Store)	
	Count	%	Count	%
0.00 – 0.99	6	4	6	4
1.00 – 1.99	9	6	9	6
2.00 – 2.99	14	9	15	10
3.00 – 3.99	17	12	18	12
4.00 and higher	102	69	100	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>100</b>



### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 1 – Subclass Level

**Table 7. Summary of Cointegration Test of CPI of Selected Subclass**

2009 PCOICOP	Description	Pair	Trace	Critical Value ( $\alpha = 0.05$ )	ECT	Conclusion
01.1.71	Fresh, Chilled, Frozen or Dried Vegetables Cultivated for Their Leaves or Stalks	Offline vs 1a	21.40	15.41	-0.3547	Not significant cointegration
		Offline vs 1b	24.24	15.41	-0.3144	Not significant cointegration
06.1.17	Cardiovascular Drugs	Offline vs 1a	14.32	12.53	-0.0134***	Significant cointegration
		Offline vs 1b	13.84	12.53	-0.0112***	Significant cointegration

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 1 – Subclass Level

**Table 8. Summary of Cointegration Test of CPI at the Subclass Level**

	Total <sup>/b</sup>	Cointegrated	Not cointegrated
Offline vs 1a (All Stores)	148	32	94
Offline vs 1b (One Store)	148	34	92

*<sup>/b</sup> Components do not add up to total because some of the series have no variation, thus, not appropriate for cointegration test.*

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 1 – Subclass Level

**Table 9. Summary of Cointegration Test of Subclass CPI by Division**

Division	Total Subclass with Online Price	No. of Subclasses with Cointegration	
		1a (All Stores)	1b (One Store)
01 - Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages	57	12	13
02 - Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	7	1	2
03 - Clothing and Footwear	12	5	5
04 - Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	3	0	0
05 - Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	26	6	7
06 - Health	8	4	4
07 - Transport	2	0	0
08 - Communication	1	0	0
09 - Recreation and Culture	21	3	2
10 - Education	-	-	-
11 - Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	11	1	1

## IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

### Objective 1 – Subclass Level

- Results from 1a (all stores) and 1b (one store) showed that there are subclasses from online CPI that have less than one percentage point mean absolute deviations (MAD) from the offline CPI.
- These are notable in food and non-alcoholic beverages (particularly, processed food); clothing and footwear; housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels; furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance; health; and recreation and culture.

## IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

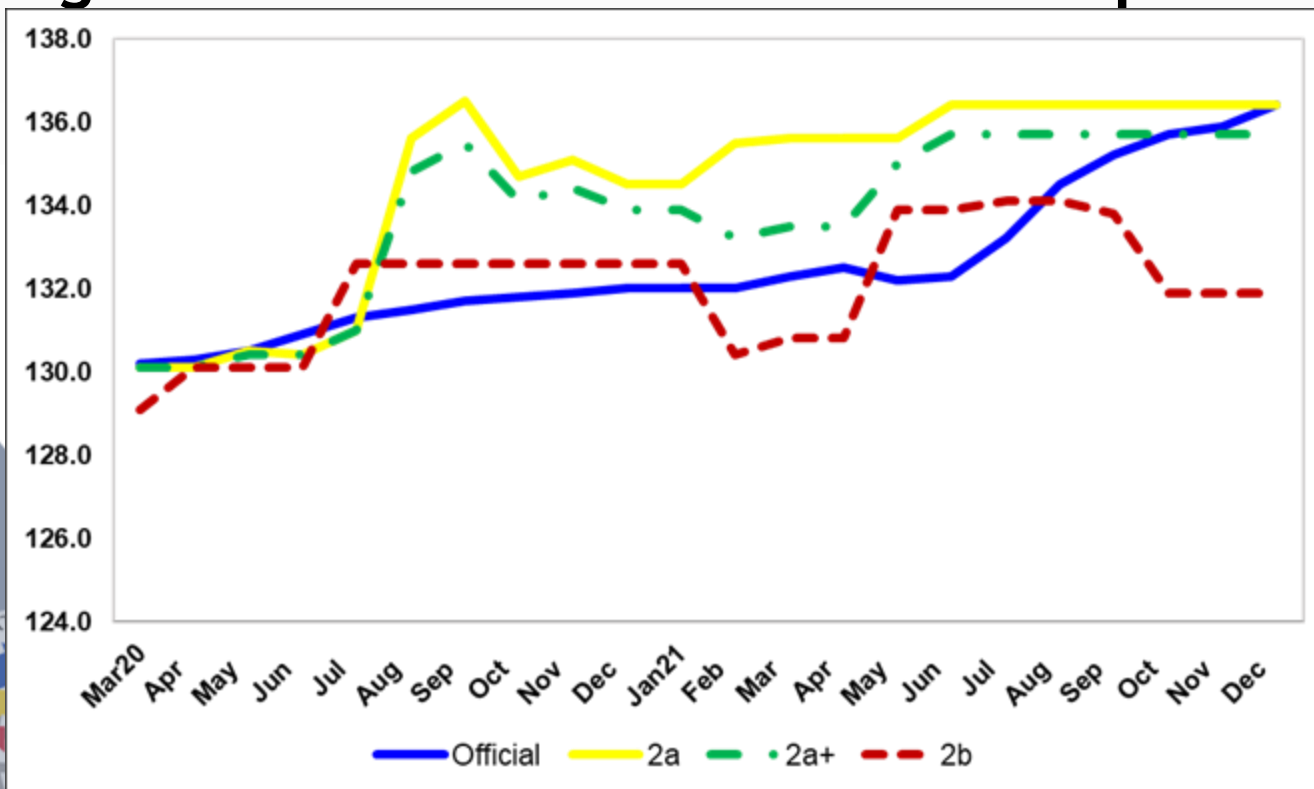
### Objective 1 – Subclass Level

- Volatile commodities like meat, fruit, and fresh vegetables are more stable in online outlets compared with offline stores. Thus, higher MAD are observed in these commodity groups.
- Cointegration test showed that using 1a (all stores) there are 32 subclasses have significant cointegration with the official CPI and 34 using 1b (one store). Thirty of these subclasses are common to the two explorations.

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 2 – Subclass Level

Figure 5. CPI Trend for Other Cereal Preparations



**Official:** Consists of 11 commodities

**2a :** Consists of 5 commodities with exact specifications with the official CPI market basket

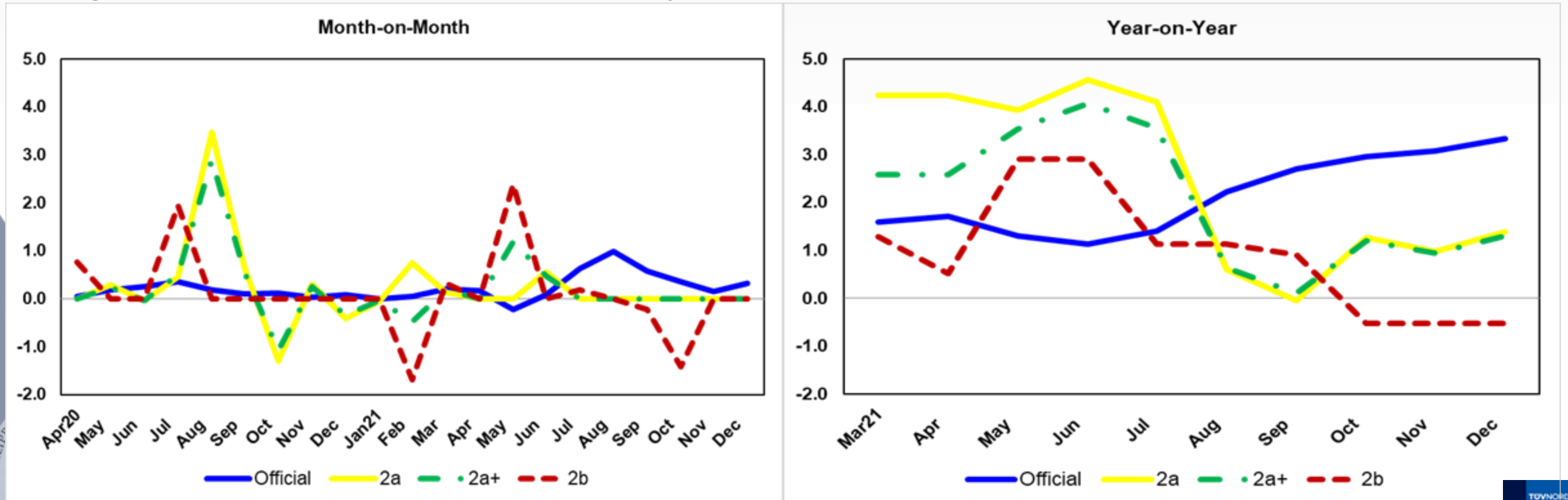
**2a+ :** Consists of 5 commodities with exact specifications and 1 commodity with similar specification.

**2b :** Consists of 3 commodities with equivalent specifications with the commodities in the official CPI market basket.

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 2 – Subclass Level

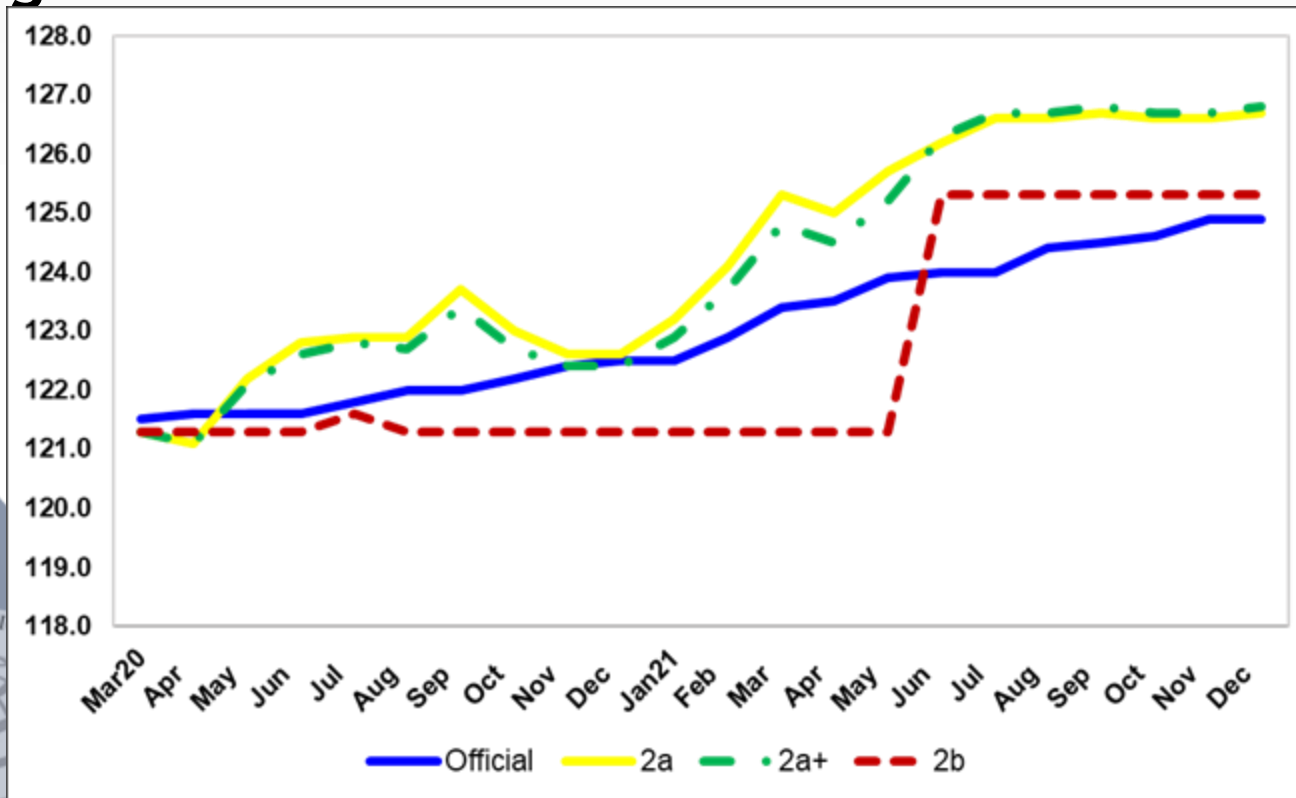
Figure 6. Month-on-month & Year-on-year Growth Rates of CPI for Other Cereal Preparations



### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 2 – Subclass Level

Figure 7. CPI Trend for Other Pharmaceutical Products



**Official:** Consists of 17 commodities

**2a :** Consists of 14 commodities with exact specifications with the official CPI market basket

**2a+ :** Consists of 2 commodities with similar specifications with the commodities in the official CPI market basket

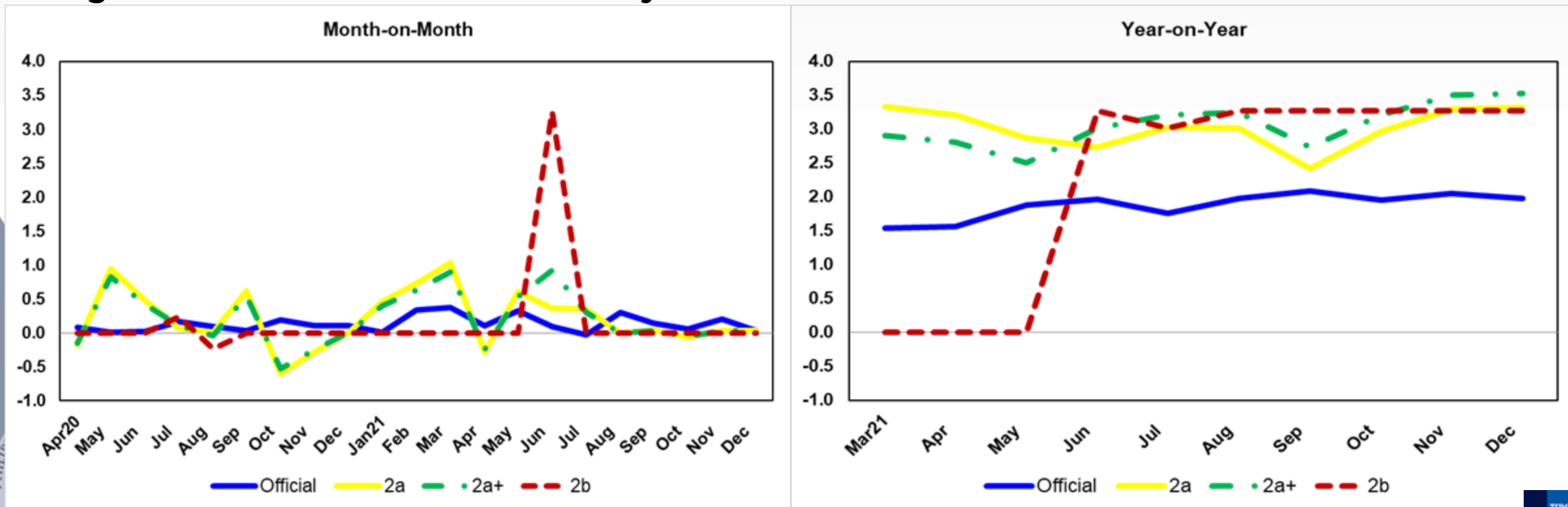
**2b :** Consists of 3 commodities with equivalent specifications with the commodities in the official CPI market basket.



### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 2 – Subclass Level

Figure 8. Month-on-month & Year-on-year Growth Rates of CPI for Other Pharmaceutical Products



### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 2 – Subclass Level

**Table 10. Absolute Deviations at the Subclass Level**

Description	Online		Official		Absolute Deviation from the Official CPI				Period with Highest Deviation
	Mar 2020	Dec 2021	Mar 2020	Dec 2021	Lowest	Highest	Range	Average	
<b>2a (Exact)</b>									
Other cereal preparations	130.1	136.4	130.2	136.4	0.03	4.79	4.76	2.09	Sep. 2020
Other pharmaceutical products	120.3	126.7	121.5	124.9	0.11	2.64	2.53	1.32	Jul.2021
<b>2a+ (Exact + Similar commodities)</b>									
Other cereal preparations	130.1	135.7	130.2	136.4	0.03	3.87	3.84	1.44	Sep. 2020
Other pharmaceutical products	120.3	126.8	121.5	124.9	0.05	2.71	2.67	1.19	Jul. 2021
<b>2b (Equivalent)</b>									
Other cereal preparations	129.1	131.9	130.2	136.4	0.17	4.43	4.26	1.44	Dec. 2021
Other pharmaceutical products	121.3	125.2	121.5	124.9	0.20	2.60	2.40	0.96	May 2021

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 2 – Subclass Level

**Table 11. Mean Absolute Deviations of CPI Subclass using 2a, 2a+, and 2b**

Mean Absolute Deviation (in Percentage Point)	Number of Subclasses					
	2a (Exact)		2a+ (Exact + Similar)		2b (Equivalent)	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
0.00 – 0.99	10	17	6	10	13	22
1.00 – 1.99	10	17	14	24	15	25
2.00 – 2.99	12	20	12	20	7	12
3.00 – 3.99	7	12	9	15	3	5
4.00 and higher	20	34	18	31	21	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>100</b>

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 2 – Subclass Level

**Table 12. Range of Absolute Deviations of CPI Subclass using 2a, 2a+, and 2b**

Range of Absolute Deviations (in Percentage Point)	Number of Subclasses					
	2a (Exact)		2a+ (Exact + Similar)		2b (Equivalent)	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
0.00 – 0.99	2	3	2	3	3	5
1.00 – 1.99	4	7	3	6	7	12
2.00 – 2.99	10	17	12	20	10	17
3.00 – 3.99	6	10	5	8	5	8
4.00 and higher	37	63	37	63	34	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>100</b>

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 2 – Subclass Level

**Table 13. Cointegration Test of CPI Subclass using 2a, 2a+, & 2b vs Offline**

Description	Pair	Trace	Critical Value ( $\alpha = 0.05$ )	ECT	Conclusion
Other cereal preparations	Offline vs 2a	13.02	18.17	-	No cointegration
	Offline vs 2a+	12.12	18.17	-	No cointegration
	Offline vs 2b	11.66	18.17	-	No cointegration
Other pharmaceutical products	Offline vs 2a	10.36	15.41	-	No cointegration
	Offline vs 2a+	10.36	15.41	-	No cointegration
	Offline vs 2b	17.38	15.41	0.0235	No cointegration

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 2 – Subclass Level

Table 14. Summary of Cointegration Test of CPI Subclass using 2a, 2a+, & 2b vs Offline

Comparison	Total	Cointegrated	Not cointegrated
Offline vs 2a (Exact) <sup>a</sup>	59	9	43
Offline vs 2a+ (Exact+) <sup>b</sup>	59	9	44
Offline vs 2b (Equivalent)	59	9	37

<sup>/b</sup> Components do not add up to total because some of the series have no variation, thus, not appropriate for cointegration test.

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 2 – Subclass Level

**Table 15. Summary of Cointegration Test of Subclass CPI using 2a, 2a+, & 2b by Division**

Division	Total Subclass with Exact and Equivalent Specifications	No. of Subclasses with Cointegration		
		2a	2a+	2b
01 - Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages	25	1	2	2
02 - Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	1	0	0	0
03 - Clothing and Footwear	5	1	1	1
04 - Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	2	0	0	0
05 - Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	10	2	2	3
06 - Health	3	3	3	1
07 - Transport	0	0	0	0
08 - Communication	0	0	0	0
09 - Recreation and Culture	9	1	0	1
10 - Education	-	-	-	-
11 - Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4	1	1	1

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 2 – Subclass Level

- Comparing 2a (exact) with the official CPI, there are 10 subclasses with small MAD (less than one percentage point).
- Using 2a+ (exact + similar commodities), six out of 59 subclasses showed less than 1 percentage point in MAD.
- Using 2b (equivalent), there are 13 subclasses with small MAD (less than one percentage point) from the official CPI.
- Results of cointegration test showed the number of subclasses with cointegrating relation with the official CPI for each exploration.

<b>2a (exact)</b>	<b>2a+ (exact+)</b>	<b>2b (equivalent)</b>
9 subclasses	9 subclasses	9 subclasses



## IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

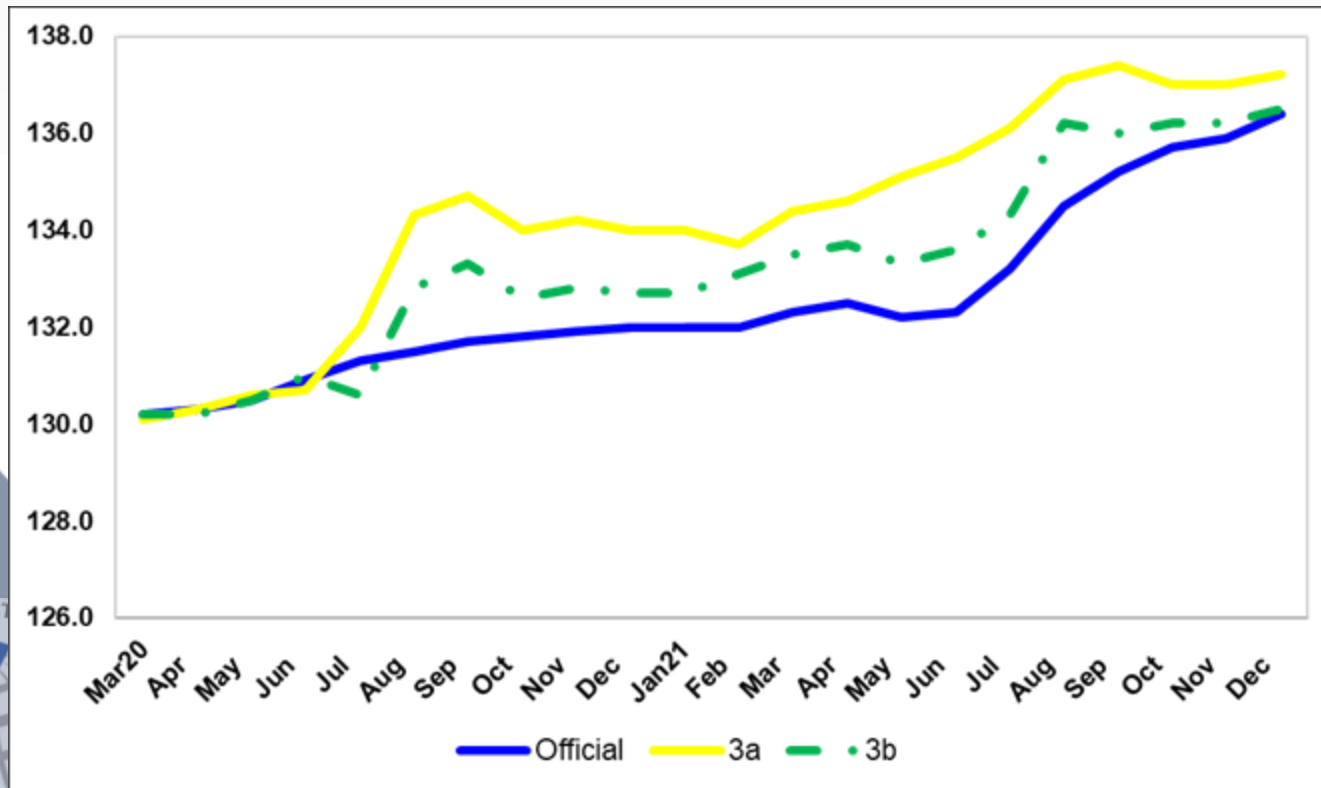
### Objective 2 – Subclass Level

- There are three subclasses common to all explorations. These are small electric household appliances, cleaning and maintenance products, and analgesics and muscle relaxants.
- Selected subclasses with higher percentage of commodities with exact specifications such as analgesic/antipyretics and muscle relaxants; cardiovascular drugs; and other pharmaceutical products showed small MADs and have significant cointegrating relations to the offline CPI.

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 3 – Subclass Level

Figure 9. CPI Trend for Other Cereal Preparations



Official: Consists of 11 commodities

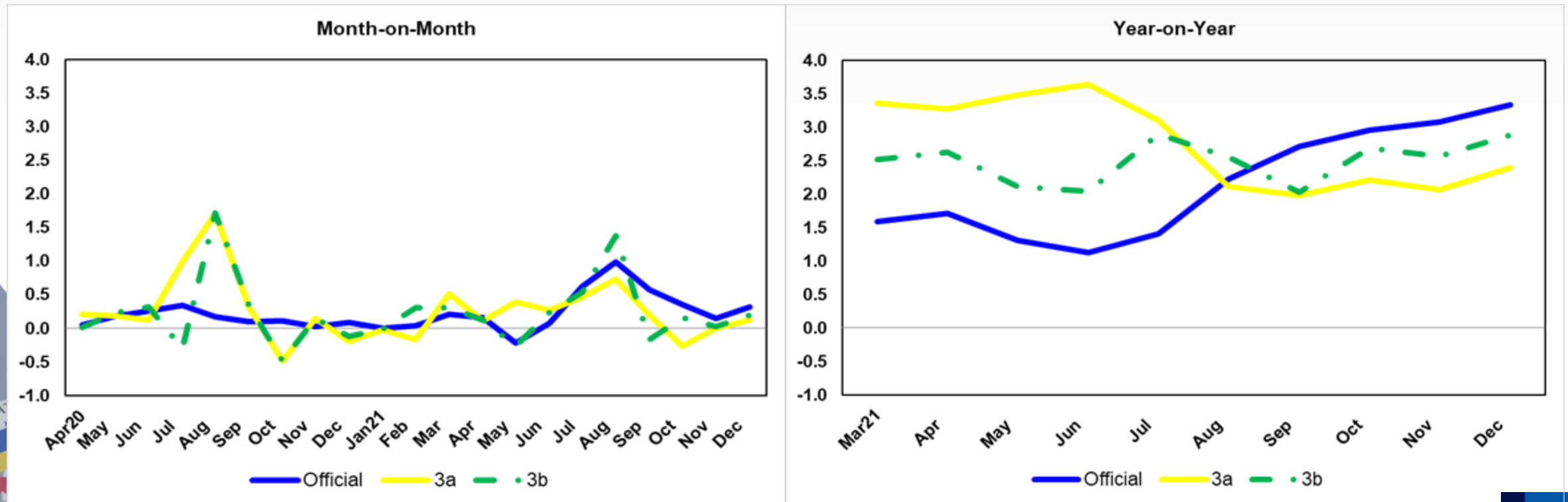
3a : Consists of 8 commodities from online and 3 commodities from the official CPI market basket

3b : Consists of 5 online commodities with exact specifications and 6 commodities from the official CPI market basket

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 3 – Subclass Level

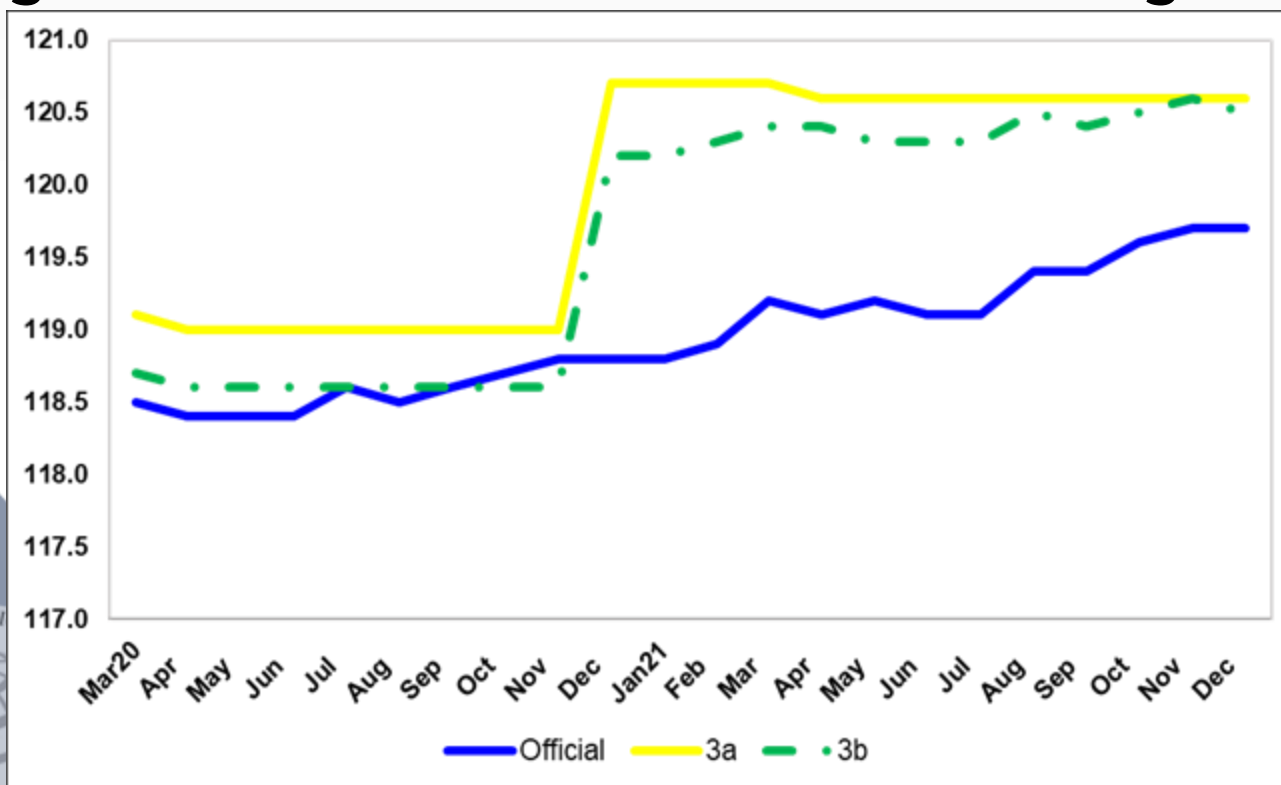
Figure 10. Month-on-month & Year-on-year Growth Rates of CPI for Other Cereal Preparations



### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 3 – Subclass Level

Figure 11. CPI Trend for Cardiovascular Drugs



Official: Consists of 4 commodities

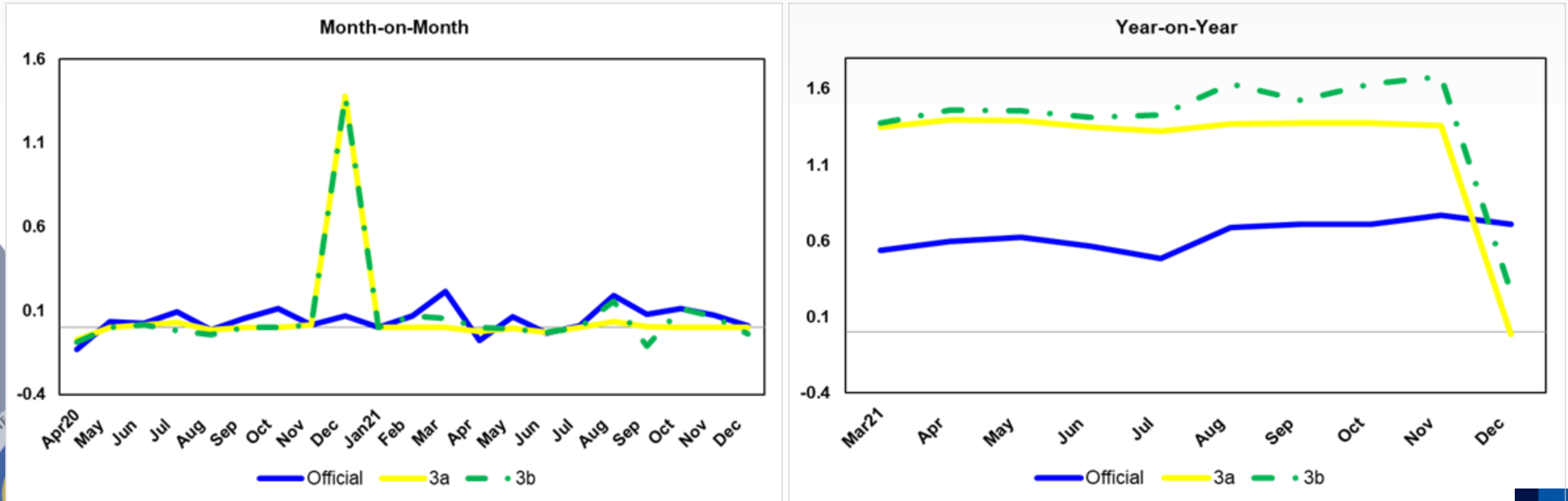
3a : Consists of 3 online commodities and 1 commodity from the official CPI market basket

3b : Consists of 2 online commodities with exact specifications 2 commodities in the official CPI market basket.

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 3 – Subclass Level

Figure 12. Month-on-month & Year-on-year Growth Rates of CPI for Cardiovascular Drugs



### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 3 – Subclass Level

**Table 16. Absolute Deviations at the Subclass Level**

Description	Online		Official		Absolute Deviation from the Official CPI				Period with Highest Deviation
	Mar 2020	Dec 2021	Mar 2020	Dec 2021	Lowest	Highest	Range	Average	
<b>3a (Hybrid1 = 1a + Offline)</b> <i>(combination of online &amp; offline regardless of stores and specs)</i>									
<b>Other cereal preparations</b>	130.1	137.2	130.2	136.4	0.04	3.15	3.11	1.75	Jun. 2021
<b>Cardiovascular drugs</b>	119.1	120.6	118.5	119.7	0.28	1.83	1.55	1.02	Dec. 2020
<b>3b (Hybrid2 = 2a + Offline)</b> <i>(combination of online and offline regardless of stores, but considering exact specs)</i>									
<b>Other cereal preparations</b>	130.2	136.5	130.2	136.4	0.01	1.72	1.71	0.78	Aug. 2021
<b>Cardiovascular drugs</b>	118.7	120.5	118.5	119.7	0.02	1.38	1.36	0.74	Dec. 2020

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 3 – Subclass Level

Table 17. Mean Absolute Deviations of CPI Subclass using 3a and 3b from the official CPI

Mean Absolute Deviation (in Percentage Point)	Number of Subclasses			
	3a (Hybrid1)		3b (Hybrid2)	
	Count	%	Count	%
0.00 – 0.99	26	18	25	43
1.00 – 1.99	25	17	13	22
2.00 – 2.99	21	14	9	15
3.00 – 3.99	23	15	3	5
4.00 and higher	53	36	9	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>100</b>

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 3 – Subclass Level

Table 18. Range of Absolute Deviations of CPI Subclass using 3a and 3b from the official CPI

Range of Absolute Deviations (in Percentage Point)	Number of Subclasses			
	3a (Hybrid1)		3b (Hybrid2)	
	Count	%	Count	%
0.00 – 0.99	11	7	12	20
1.00 – 1.99	10	7	11	19
2.00 – 2.99	15	10	8	14
3.00 – 3.99	15	10	10	17
4.00 and higher	97	66	18	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>100</b>



### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 3 – Subclass Level

**Table 19. Cointegration Test of CPI Subclass using 3a & 3b vs Offline**

Description	Pair	Trace	Critical Value ( $\alpha = 0.05$ )	ECT	Conclusion
<b>Other cereal preparations</b>	Offline vs 3a	6.22	15.41	-	No cointegration
	Offline vs 3b	25.73	25.32	-0.0741	No cointegration
<b>Cardiovascular drugs</b>	Offline vs 3a	14.55	12.53	-0.0206***	Significant cointegration
	Offline vs 3b	13.77	12.53	-0.0171***	Significant cointegration

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 3 – Subclass Level

Table 20. Summary of Cointegration Test of CPI Subclass using 3a & 3b vs Offline

Comparison	Total	Cointegrated	Not cointegrated
Offline vs 3a (Hybrid1) <sup>b</sup>	148	32	94
Offline vs 3b (Hybrid2)	59	8	51

<sup>/b</sup> Components do not add up to total because some of the series have no variation, thus, not appropriate for cointegration test.

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 3 – Subclass Level

**Table 21. Summary of Cointegration Test of Subclass CPI using 3a & 3b by Division**

Division	No. of subclass conformed to Hybrid 1	3a (Hybrid1)	No. of subclass conformed to Hybrid 2	3b (Hybrid2)
01 - Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages	57	12	25	1
02 - Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	7	1	1	0
03 - Clothing and Footwear	12	5	5	1
04 - Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	3	1	2	0
05 - Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	26	6	10	2
06 - Health	8	4	3	3
07 - Transport	2	0	0	0
08 - Communication	1	0	0	0
09 - Recreation and Culture	21	2	9	1
10 - Education	-	-	-	-
11 - Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	11	1	4	0

### IV. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

#### Objective 3 – Subclass Level

- Comparing 3a (Hybrid1, combination of 1a and offline) with the official CPI, there are 26 out of 148 subclasses have less than 1 percentage point MAD.
- Using 3b (Hybrid2, combination of 2a and offline), 25 of 59 subclasses showed less than 1 percentage point in MAD from the official CPI.
- Results from cointegration test, showed 32 of 148 subclasses are cointegrated using 3a (Hybrid1) and 8 of 59 subclasses are cointegrated using 3b (Hybrid2).
- Eight cointegrated subclasses are common for the two explorations.

### V. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To have further studies exploring one-to-one correspondence of offline and online sample stores and one-to-one correspondence of commodity specifications (2a) to address the issue on data source for computed CPI.
2. To follow the NCR's schedule of price collection for web scraping.
3. To use longer series of web scraped data for a more reliable cointegration test.
4. To increase the number of items covered for each commodity groups for online price collection, if possible.



# Thank you

[psa.gov.ph](http://psa.gov.ph)

[openstat.psa.gov.ph](http://openstat.psa.gov.ph)

[@PSAgovph](https://www.instagram.com/PSAgovph)

