

SPECIAL RELEASE

Summary Inflation Report in Central Visayas Consumer Price Index (2018=100)

February 2024

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Starting February 2022, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) released the rebased Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all income households to base year 2018, from base year 2012 as announced in the press release number 2022-01 dated 04 January 2022. The CPI series for all income households for January 2022 onwards will be 2018-based.

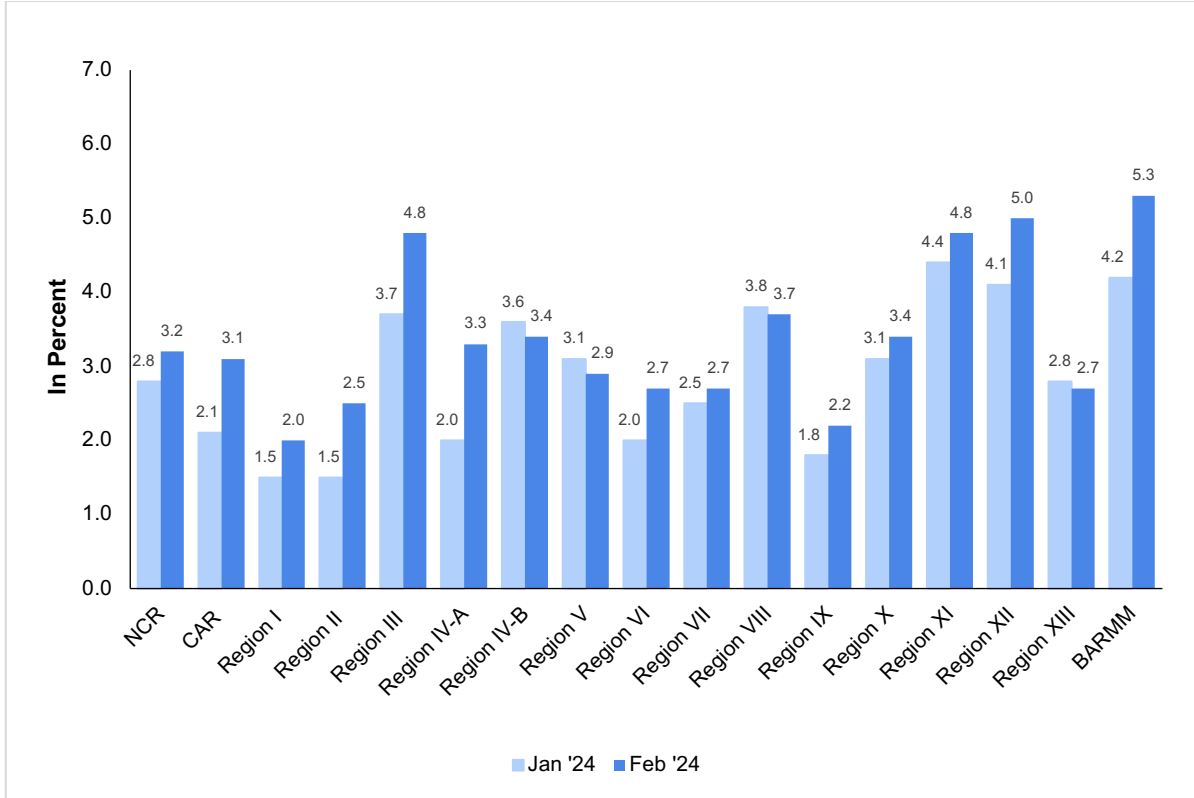
**Table A. Year-on-Year Inflation Rates, All Items
In Percent
(2018=100)**

Area	February	January	February	Year-to-date*
	2023	2024	2024	
Philippines	8.6	2.8	3.4	3.1
Central Visayas	7.4	2.5	2.7	2.6
Bohol	9.4	3.8	4.0	3.9
Cebu City	5.7	4.5	4.5	4.5
Lapu-Lapu City	5.7	2.6	4.5	3.6
Mandaue City	4.4	5.9	6.7	6.3
Cebu	7.5	(0.4)	(0.2)	(0.3)
Negros Oriental	8.4	4.6	4.5	4.6
Siquijor	12.1	3.7	4.0	3.8

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

*Year-on-year change of CPI for January to February 2024 vs. 2023

**Figure 1. Inflation Rates by Region
 All Items: January 2024 and February 2024
 In Percent
 (2018=100)**



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

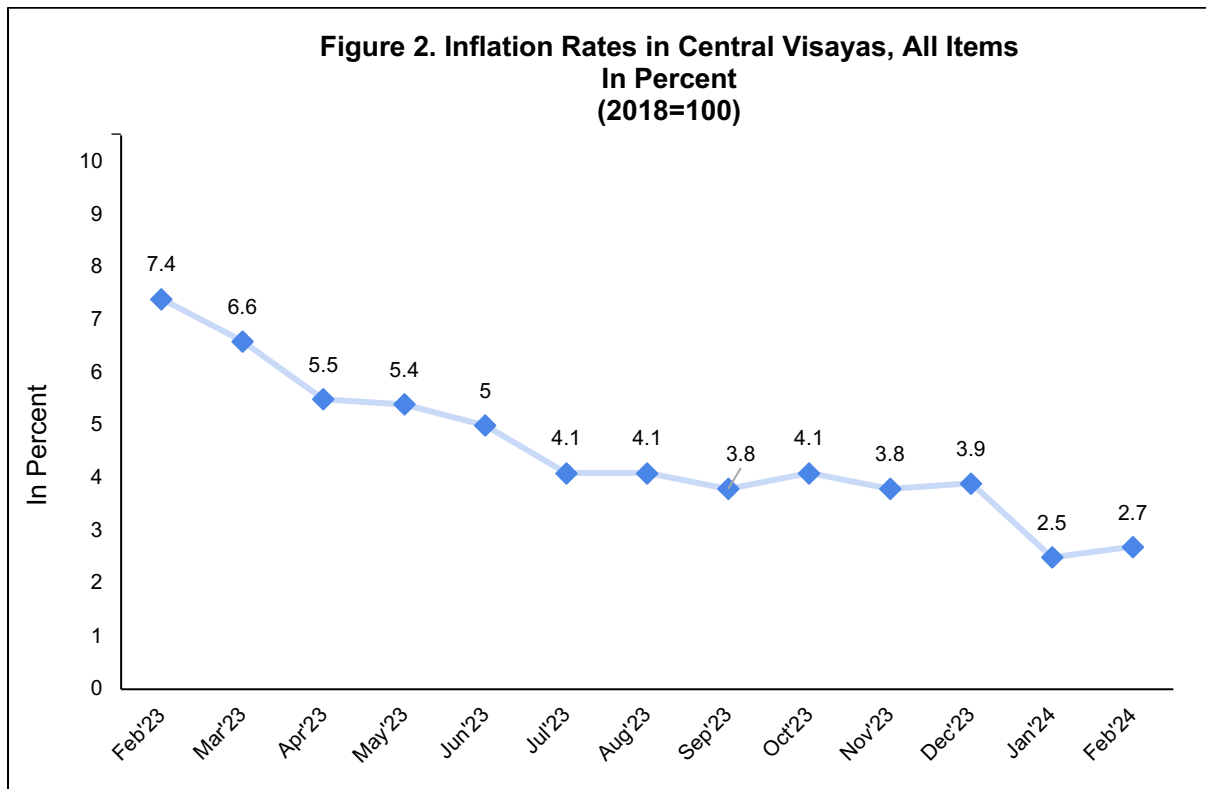
A. The Philippines

The Philippines' headline inflation or overall inflation increased to 3.4 percent in February 2024 from 2.8 percent in January 2024. This brings the national average inflation from January 2024 to February 2024 at 3.1 percent. In February 2023, inflation rate was higher at 8.6 percent. (Table A)

By Region

Among the seventeen regions, thirteen recorded faster inflation rates during the month and four regions recorded slower inflation rates relative to their January 2024 inflation rates. Region I (Ilocos Region) recorded the lowest inflation rates at 2.0 percent while BARMM recorded the highest inflation at 5.3 percent during the month. (Figure 1)





B. Central Visayas

1. Regional Inflation

Inflation in Central Visayas accelerated to 2.7 percent in February 2024 from 2.5 percent in January 2024. This brings the regional average inflation from January 2024 to February 2024 at 2.6 percent. In February 2023, inflation rate was higher at 7.4 percent. (Table A, B, and Figure 1)

1.1 Main Drivers to the Upward Trend of the Regional Inflation

The uptrend in the regional inflation in February 2024 was primarily brought about by the faster year-on-year increase of food and non-alcoholic beverages at 2.9 percent in February 2024 from 2.2 percent in January 2024. Also contributing to the uptrend of the regional inflation was the faster year-on-year increase in the indices of transport with 1.8 percent in February 2024 from 0.5 percent in January 2024 and personal care, and miscellaneous goods and services with 4.7 percent in February 2024 from 4.4 percent in January 2024. (Table 3)

Moreover, higher inflation rates were observed in the following commodity groups during the month: (Table 3)

- a. Recreation, Sport and Culture, 3.8 percent from 3.7 percent; and



- b. Restaurants and Accommodation Services, 4.4 percent from 4.3 percent.

In contrast, four commodity groups registered lower inflation rates during the month: (Table 3)

- a. Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco, 10.0 percent from 10.2 percent;
- b. Clothing and Footwear, 2.3 percent from 2.4 percent;
- c. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels, 1.6 percent from 2.0 percent; and
- d. Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance, 2.9 percent from 3.2 percent;

Meanwhile, the following commodity groups retained their previous month's rate:

- a. Health at 4.5 percent;
- b. Information and Communication at 0.3 percent;
- c. Education Services at 1.4; and
- d. Financial Services, at -0.2 percent.

1.2 Main Contributors to the Regional Inflation

The top three commodity groups contributing to the 2.7 percent regional inflation in February 2024 were the following:

- a. Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages with 39.9 percent share or 1.1 percentage points;
- b. Restaurants and Accommodation Services with 14.1 percent share or 0.4 percentage point; and
- c. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels with 13.6 percent share or 0.4 percentage point.

2. Food Inflation

Food inflation at the regional level accelerated to 2.9 percent in February 2024 from 2.1 percent in January 2024. In February 2023, food inflation was higher at 9.0 percent. (Table 7)

2.1 Main Drivers to the Upward Trend of Food Inflation

The acceleration of food inflation in February 2024 was mainly brought about by the faster year-on-year increase in meat and other parts of slaughtered land animals index at 7.6 percent in February 2024 from 5.5 percent annual increase in the previous month.



In addition, Cereals and cereal products, which includes rice, corn, flour, bread and other bakery products, pasta products, and other cereals index recorded a 9.2 percent annual increment during the month from an annual increase of 8.5 percent in January 2024. Vegetables, tubers, plantains, cooking bananas and pulses, also contributed to the upward trend of food inflation in the region. It registered a slower annual decrease of -20.9 percent during the month from -24.4 percent in the previous month. (Table 5)

Higher inflation rates during the month were also noted in the index of Ready-made food and other food products n.e.c. at 5.9 percent from 5.1 percent.

On the contrary, lower annual increases during the month were observed in the indices of the following food groups: (Table 5)

- a. Milk, Other Dairy Products, and Eggs, 9.0 percent from 10.6 percent;
- b. Oils and fats, 0.8 percent from 1.4 percent; and
- c. Fruits and Nuts, 4.5 percent from 7.3 percent.

Meanwhile, compared with their previous month's inflation rates, faster year-on-year decline were observed in the indices of fish and other seafood at -2.8 percent from -2.7 percent in the previous month, and sugar, confectionery and desserts at -4.2 percent from -1.6 percent in January 2024.

2.2 Main Contributors to the Food Inflation

Food shared 36.3 percent or 1.0 percentage point to the overall inflation in February 2024. The top three food groups in terms of contribution to the food inflation during the month were the following:

- a. Cereals and cereal products, which includes rice, corn, flour, bread and other bakery products, pasta products, and other cereals, with 89.0 percent share or 2.6 percentage points;
- b. Meat and other parts of slaughtered land animals with 30.6 percent share or 0.9 percentage point; and
- c. Milk, other dairy products and eggs with 20.0 percent share or 0.6 percentage point.



**Table B. Year-on-Year Inflation Rates in Central Visayas
 All Items: January 2020 – February 2024
 In Percent
 (2018=100)**

Month	Year				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
January	2.0	0.9	5.0	7.2	2.5
February	1.8	1.1	5.1	7.4	2.7
March	1.6	1.5	5.0	6.6	
April	0.9	2.3	5.4	5.5	
May	0.7	2.3	5.3	5.4	
June	2.3	1.5	5.7	5.0	
July	2.1	1.5	6.9	4.1	
August	1.5	1.9	7.4	4.1	
September	1.3	2.2	8.1	3.8	
October	1.4	2.4	7.9	4.1	
November	1.4	2.6	8.3	3.8	
December	1.4	2.2	8.5	3.9	
Average	1.5	1.9	6.6	5.1	2.6

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

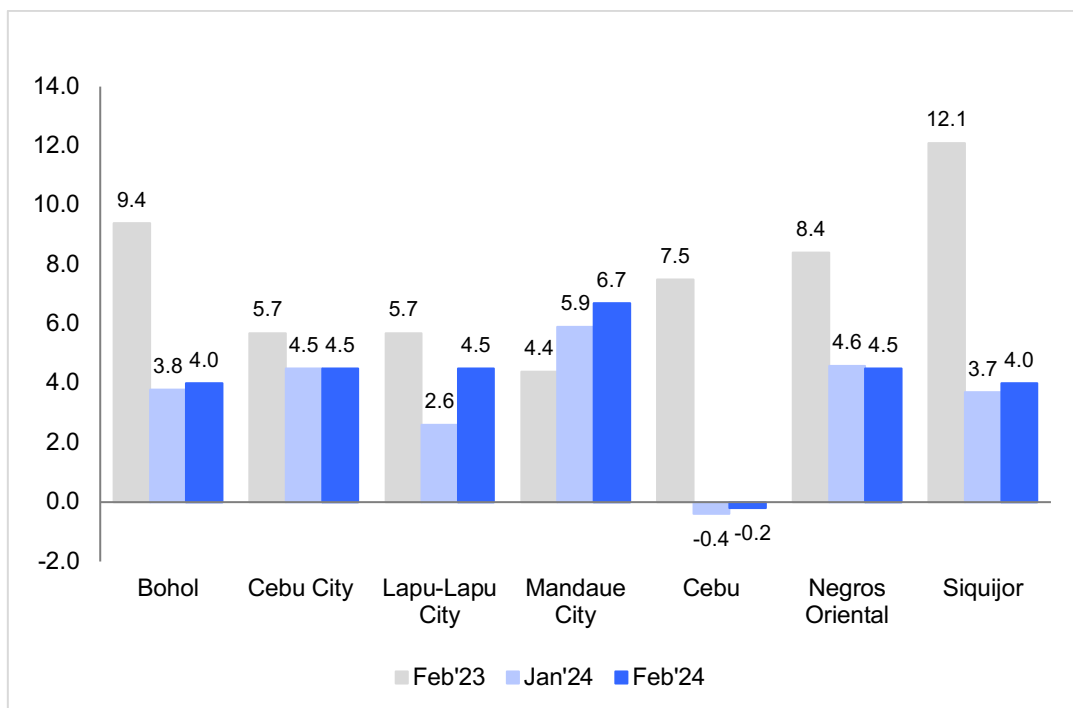


C. By Province

Among the provinces and Highly Urbanized Cities (HUCs) of Central Visayas, the Province of Cebu recorded the lowest inflation in February 2024 at -0.2 percent while the City of Mandaue recorded the highest inflation during the month at 6.7 percent.

Moreover, three provinces and two HUCs recorded faster year-on-year growth rates this month compared to the previous month's inflation rates while Negros Oriental registered a lower annual increment during the month relative to its respective January 2024 annual rate. Only the City of Cebu retained its previous month's rate. (Table A, Figure 3).

Figure 3. Inflation Rates by Province and Highly Urbanized Cities in Central Visayas
All Items: February 2023, January 2024, and February 2024
In Percent (2018=100)



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

TECHNICAL NOTES

The Philippine Statistics Authority generates and announces the monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) based on a nationwide survey of prices for a given basket of goods and services. Two important indicators, the inflation rate and purchasing power of the peso (PPP), are derived from the CPI which are important in monitoring price stability and the value of the country's currency.

The **CPI** is an indicator of the change in the average retail prices of a fixed basket of goods and services commonly purchased by households relative to a base year.

Retail Price is the price at which a commodity is sold for spot in small quantities for consumption.

Base Period/Base Year is the period, usually a year, at which the index number is set to 100. It is the reference point of the index number series.

Market Basket is a term used to refer to a sample of goods and services that are commonly purchased and bought by an average Filipino household.

Weight is a value attached to a commodity or group of commodities to indicate the relative importance of that commodity or group of commodities in the market basket.

Inflation Rate is equivalent to a decline in the purchasing power of the peso. It is the change in the CPI over a specific period of time (usually a month or a year). That is,

$$\text{Inflation Rate} = \frac{CPI_2 - CPI_1}{CPI_1} * 100$$

where:

CPI₁ - is the CPI in the previous period

CPI₂ - is the CPI in the current period

The **Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP)** is a measure of the real value of the peso in a given period relative to a chosen reference period. It is computed by getting the reciprocal of the CPI and multiplying the result by 100. That is,

$$PPP = \frac{1}{CPI} * 100$$

Headline Inflation is the rate of change in the weighted average prices of all goods and services in the CPI basket.

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