



SPECIAL RELEASE

March 2019 Price Situation in the Cordillera (Base Year: 2012)

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Consumer Price Index

- Consumer Price Index (CPI) is the general measure of the change in the average retail prices of a market basket or collection of goods and services commonly purchased by the average Filipino household.
- The CPI of the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) in March 2019 was 117.4. This was higher by 2.9 index points from the 114.5 CPI of March 2018 using 2012 as base year.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index by Province, CAR:
March 2018 and 2019 (2012=100)**

Province	March		Index Point Change
	2018	2019	
CAR	114.5	117.4	2.9
Abra	110.8	115.9	5.1
Apayao	114.4	121.8	7.4
Benguet	116.7	117.7	1.0
Ifugao	110.8	118.3	7.5
Kalinga	116.0	122.8	6.8
Mt. Province	110.5	112.4	1.9

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

- Among the CAR provinces, Kalinga posted the highest CPI for March 2019 with 122.8, followed by Apayao with 121.8, and Ifugao with 118.3. Mountain Province posted the lowest CPI with 112.4.
- In terms of index point change, Ifugao incurred the highest increase with 7.5 index points, followed by Apayao with 7.4 index points increase.

CPI by Commodity Groups

- Among the commodity groups, Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco had the highest CPI in the region with 215.0. The province of Apayao incurred the highest CPI on this commodity with 335.1, followed by Abra with 269.0 and Kalinga with 244.4.
- Education and Clothing and footwear registered the second highest CPI among the commodity groups in the region for March 2019 with 121.8 index points.
- Among the provinces, Kalinga posted the highest index on education with 121.8 index points, followed by Benguet and Mountain Province with 121.6 and 120.5 index points, respectively. Apayao had the lowest registered CPI on education with 60.9 index points.
- Ifugao recorded the highest CPI on clothing and footwear with 125.0 index points, followed by Kalinga and Benguet with 124.4 and 122.4 index points, respectively. Apayao registered the lowest CPI on clothing and footwear with 115.7 index points.
- Health ranked third with 120.1 index points. Benguet and Ifugao recorded the highest CPI on health both with 125.7 index points followed by Kalinga with 124.8 index points.
- Communication continued to have the lowest CPI among the commodity groups in the region with 101.4 index points. The province of Apayao incurred the highest index on communication with 105.5 index points, while Mountain Province had the lowest with 100.1 index points.

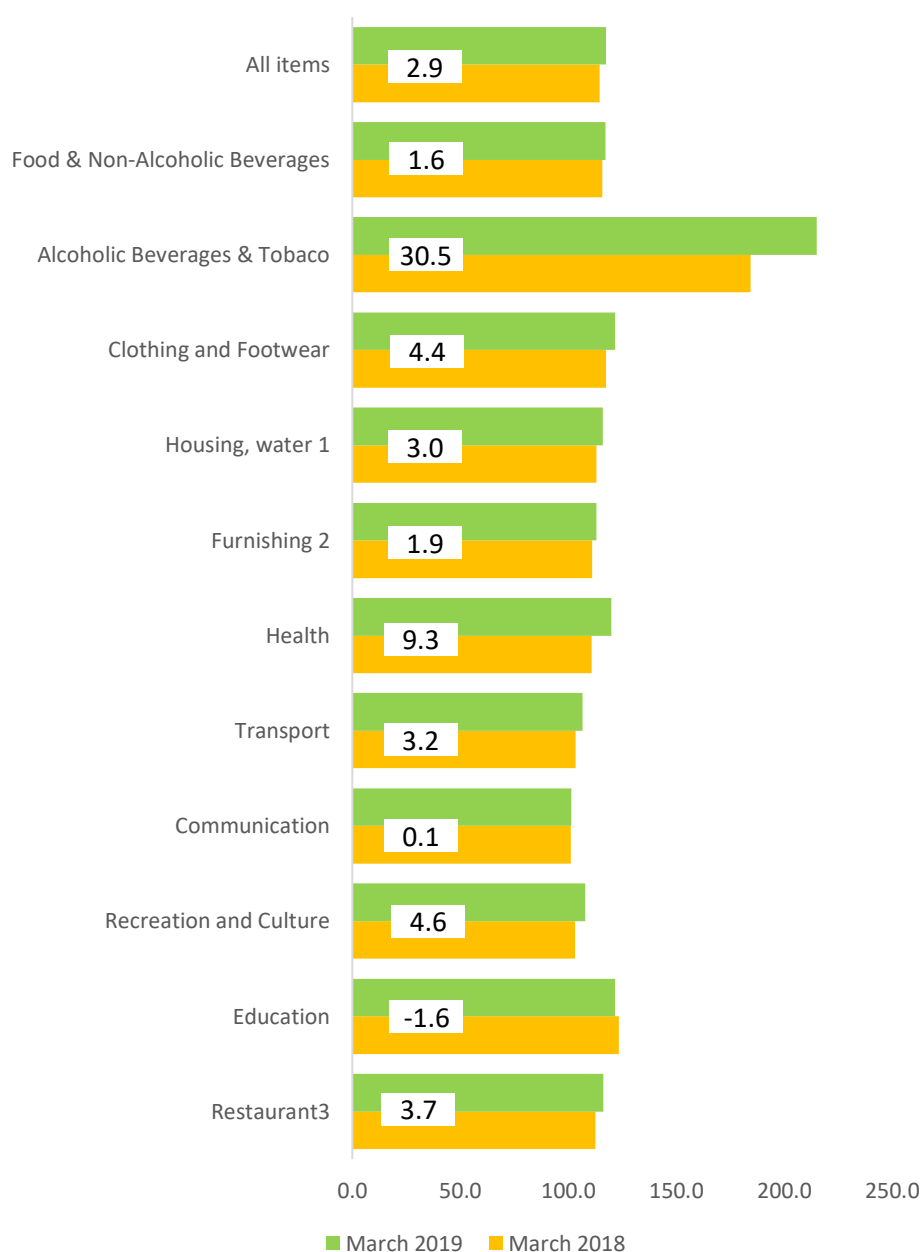
Table 2. Consumer Price Index by Commodity Group and by Province, CAR: March 2019 (2012=100)

Commodity Group	Region/Province						
	CAR	Abra	Apayao	Benguet	Ifugao	Kalinga	Mt. Province
All Items	117.4	115.9	121.8	117.7	118.3	122.8	112.4
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	117.3	116.6	121.7	115.8	116.9	123.3	118.1
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	215.0	269.0	335.1	194.5	209.5	244.4	172.2
Clothing and Footwear	121.8	120.0	115.7	122.4	125.0	124.4	118.5
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	116.1	109.2	119.2	121.5	112.5	111.8	110.3
Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	113.1	111.8	117.3	112.0	112.5	126.2	109.5
Health	120.1	109.3	109.3	125.7	125.7	124.8	102.4
Transport	106.7	108.9	105.8	106.2	105.3	105.5	109.1
Communication	101.4	103.8	105.5	100.4	101.0	103.1	100.1
Recreation and Culture	107.9	112.2	105.8	105.4	106.7	117.1	104.4
Education	121.8	100.8	60.9	121.6	100.0	179.1	120.5
Restaurants and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	116.3	113.7	123.8	115.2	114.1	126.2	112.3

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

- By index point change, Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco recorded the highest increase by 30.5 points. Increases were also incurred in Health (9.3 points), Recreation and Culture (4.6 points), and Clothing and Footwear (4.4 points). The rest of the commodity groups reported minimal annual increases.

Figure 1. Year-on-Year Consumer Price Index by Commodity Group, CAR: March 2018 and 2019 (2012=100)



Notes:

¹includes Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels

²includes Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House

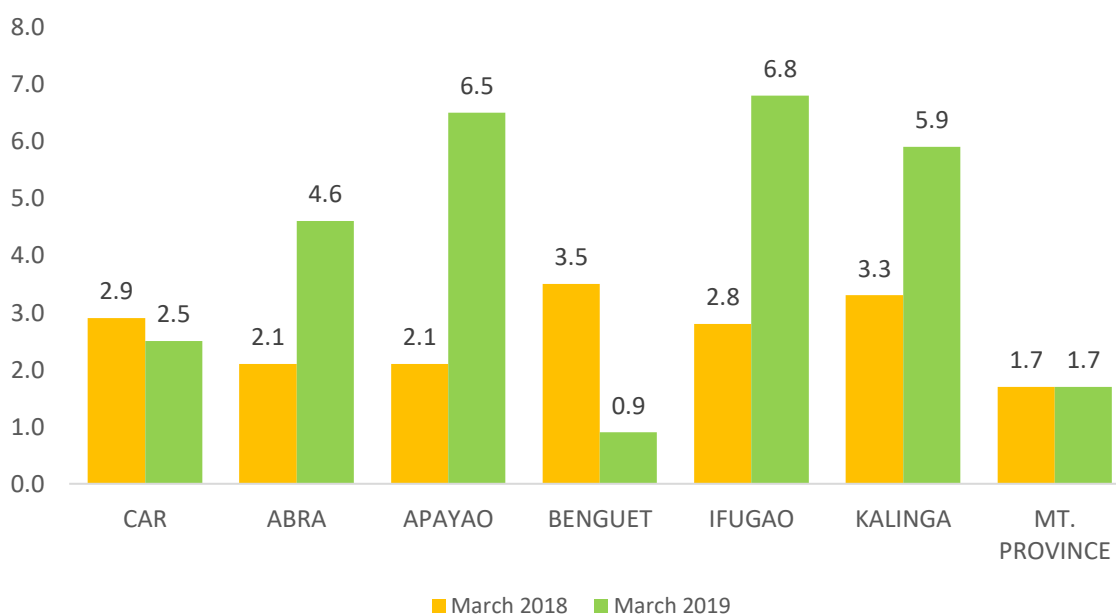
³includes Miscellaneous Goods and Services

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Inflation Rate

- Average increase in prices of goods and services in the region further increased to 2.5 percent in March 2019 from 2.9 percent in March 2018.
- Ifugao posted the highest inflation rate in March 2019 at 6.8 percent, followed by Apayao at 6.5 percent, and Kalinga at 5.9 percent.
- Most Inflation rates of the provinces in March 2019 surpassed the March 2018 Inflation rates except for the province of Benguet and Mt. Province. Apayao posted the fastest price increases with 4.4 percentage points, followed by Ifugao with 4.0 percentage points, and Kalinga with 2.6 percentage points.

**Figure 2. Year-on-Year Inflation Rates by Province, CAR:
March 2018 and 2019 (2012=100)**



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

By Commodity Group, Year- on-Year

- Year-on-year inflation rate of the heavily-weighted Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages index in the region remained at 1.4 from February 2019 to of March 2019.
- Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco had the highest inflation in March 2019 among other commodities in the region with 16.5 percent, followed by Health with 8.4 percent.
- Education incurred a negative inflation rate of 1.3 percent.

**Table 3. Inflation Rates by Commodity Groups,
CAR: February and March 2019 (2012=100)**

Commodity Group	Inflation Rates	
	February	March
All Items	2.5	2.5
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	1.4	1.4
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	17.0	16.5
Clothing and Footwear	3.8	3.7
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other		
Fuels	2.8	2.7
Furnishing, Household Equipment & Routine Maintenance of the House	1.7	1.7
Health	9.1	8.4
Transport	1.9	3.1
Communication	0.1	0.1
Recreation and Culture	4.3	4.5
Education	(1.3)	(1.3)
Restaurants and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	3.2	3.3

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

By Food Items, Year-on-Year

- Only Fish recorded the highest price increase both in 2018 and 2019.
- On the other hand, prices of Rice went down with negative 3.0 percent in March 2019.

**Table 4. Year-on-Year CPI and Inflation Rates of Selected Food Items, CAR:
February and March, Year 2018 and 2019 (2012=100)**

Food Items	2018		2019		Inflation Rates	
	February	March	February	March	Previous	Current
Bread and Cereals	115.4	116.2	114.4	114.3	(0.9)	(1.6)
Rice	115.7	116.7	113.3	113.1	(2.1)	(3.0)
Corn	137.9	142.2	161.5	162.0	17.1	13.9
Other Cereals*	112.9	113.0	115.0	115.2	1.9	1.9
Meat	114.8	114.6	117.8	119.0	2.6	3.8
Fish	114.8	115.3	123.8	124.4	7.8	7.9
Milk, Cheese and Eggs	112.9	113.1	116.4	116.5	3.1	3.0
Oils and Fats	111.9	111.6	115.9	116.1	3.6	4.0
Fruits	132.9	134.0	133.9	134.4	0.8	0.3
Vegetables	117.9	116.7	116.1	114.6	(1.5)	(1.8)
Sugar, Jam, Honey, Chocolate & Confectionery	107.6	107.4	111.3	111.5	3.4	3.8
Food Products, N.E.C.	107.6	108.6	109	109.4	1.3	0.7

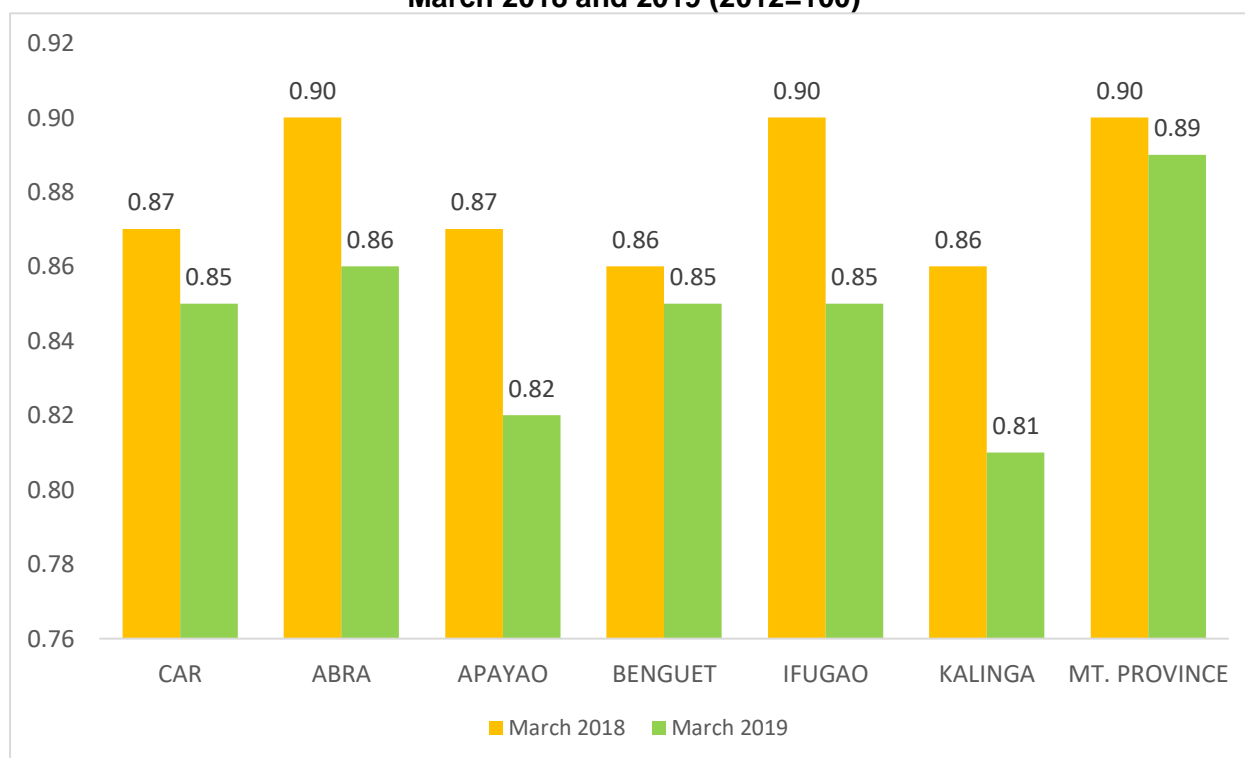
*Includes flour, cereal preparation, bread, pasta and other bakery products

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP)

- The value of the peso in the region was 85 centavos in March 2019. It dropped by two centavos from 87 centavos in March 2018. This means that one peso in 2012 is worth 85 centavos in March 2019.
- In other words, a basket of goods that can be bought with 100 pesos in December 2012 is worth 117.4 pesos in March 2019.
- The PPP in all the provinces weakened in March 2019 compared to the same month of the previous year.
- Mountain Province had the highest peso value at 89 centavos. Meanwhile, Kalinga had the lowest peso value at 81 centavos.

**Figure 3. Purchasing Power of the Peso by Province, CAR:
March 2018 and 2019 (2012=100)**



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

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Regional Director

Technical Notes

Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a general measure of the change in the average retail prices of a market basket or collection of goods and services commonly purchased by the average Filipino household.

Inflation Rate (IR) is the rate of change in the average price level between two periods (year-on year/month-on-month as measured by the CPI).

Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP) measures how much the peso in the reference year is worth in another year.

Base Year (BY) is the reference point of the index number series, at which the index number is set to 100. It is the reference point of the index number series.

The CPI is now rebased to 2012 base year from the current 2006 base year. The year 2012 was chosen as the next base year because it was the latest year when the Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES) results were made available. It is also the synchronized rebasing of the price indices to base year 2006 and every six years thereafter.

Rebasing CPI is necessary to ensure that this barometer of economic phenomena is truly reflective of current situation. Consumer taste, fashion and technology change over time causing the fixed market basket of goods and services to become outmoded. To capture such changes for a more meaningful price comparison, revision or updating of the fixed market basket, sample outlets, weights, and base year had to be done periodically. The CPI is an indicator that derives its usefulness in its representation of how much a typical market basket behaves over a specific period.

Market Basket (MB) is a sample of goods and services used to represent all goods and services produced or bought.