



SPECIAL RELEASE

March 2021 Price Situation in the Cordillera (Base Year: 2012)

Date of Release: March 28, 2021

Reference No. SR 2021-15

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 2021 was 125.5. This was higher by 4.7 index points from the 120.8 CPI of March 2020 using 2012 as base year.
- In general, the CPI increased reflecting the rise in the average prices of goods and services in all the six provinces of CAR.

**Figure 1. Consumer Price Index by Province,
CAR: March 2021
(2012=100)**



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

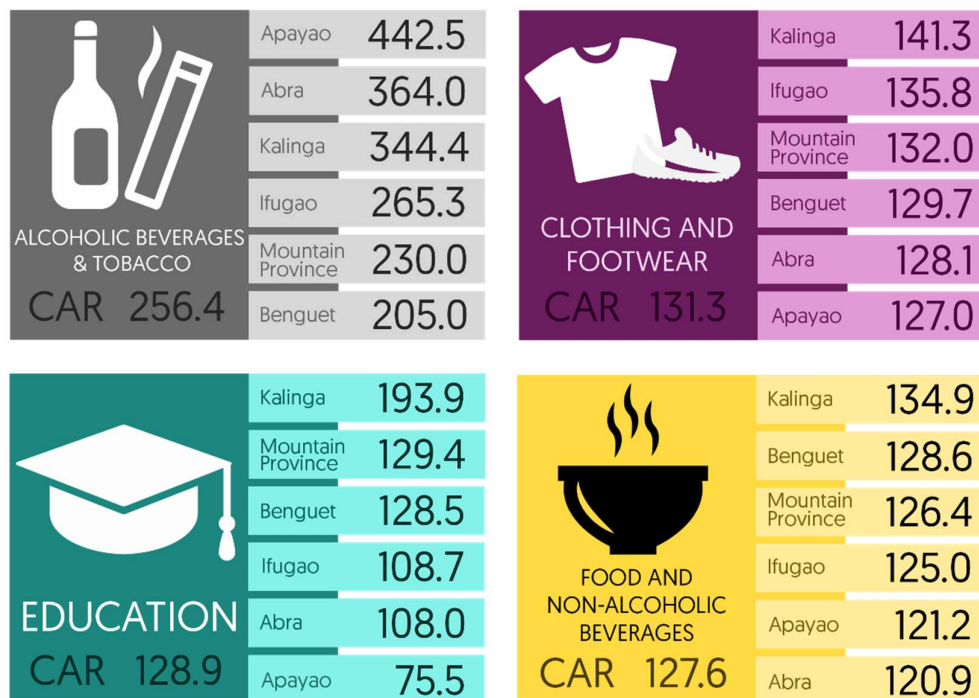


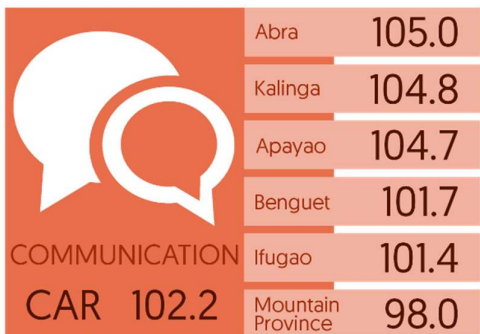
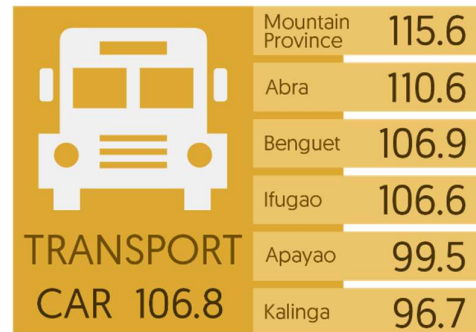
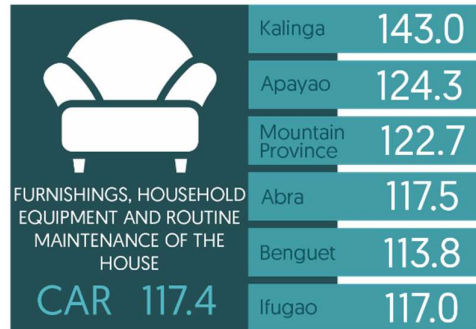
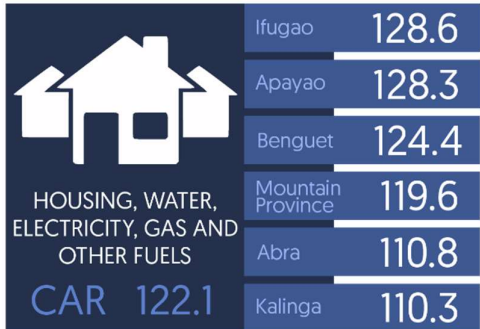
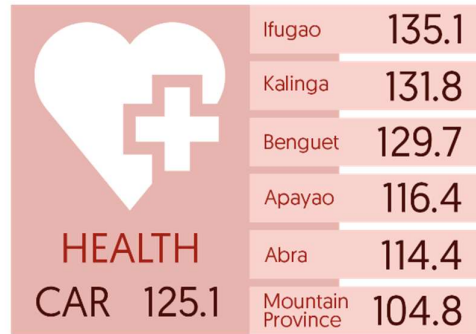
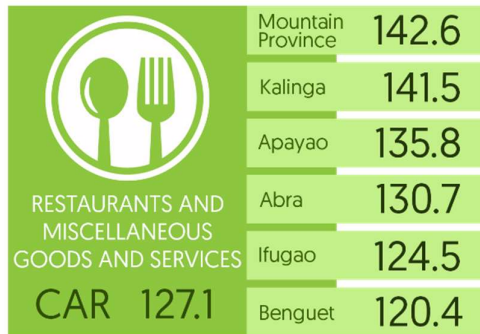
- Among the CAR provinces, Kalinga posted the highest CPI for March 2021 with 132.9, followed by Apayao with 128.3, and Ifugao with 126.2 while Mountain Province posted the lowest CPI with 122.3.

CPI by Commodity Groups

- Among the commodity groups, Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco had the highest CPI in the region with 256.4 index points. The province of Apayao incurred the highest CPI on this commodity with 442.5 index points, followed by Abra, Kalinga, and Ifugao with 364.0, 344.4, and 265.3 index points, respectively.
- Clothing and Footwear ranked second among the commodity groups in the region for March 2021 with 131.3 index points. Among the provinces, Kalinga had the highest index on clothing and footwear with 141.3, while Apayao had the lowest with 127.0 index points.
- Education registered the third highest CPI with 128.9 index points. Kalinga recorded the highest index on education with 193.9, followed by Mountain Province and Benguet with 129.4 and 128.5 index points, respectively.
- Communication incurred the lowest CPI among the commodity groups in the region during the month of March 2021 with 102.2 index points. The province of Abra incurred the highest index on communication with 105.0 index points, while Mountain Province had the lowest with 98.0 index points.
- Among the CAR provinces, Kalinga incurred the highest CPI for all items with 132.9, while Mountain Province garnered the lowest index with 122.3 in March 2021.

Figure 2. Consumer Price Index by Commodity Group and by Province, CAR: March 2021 (2012=100)

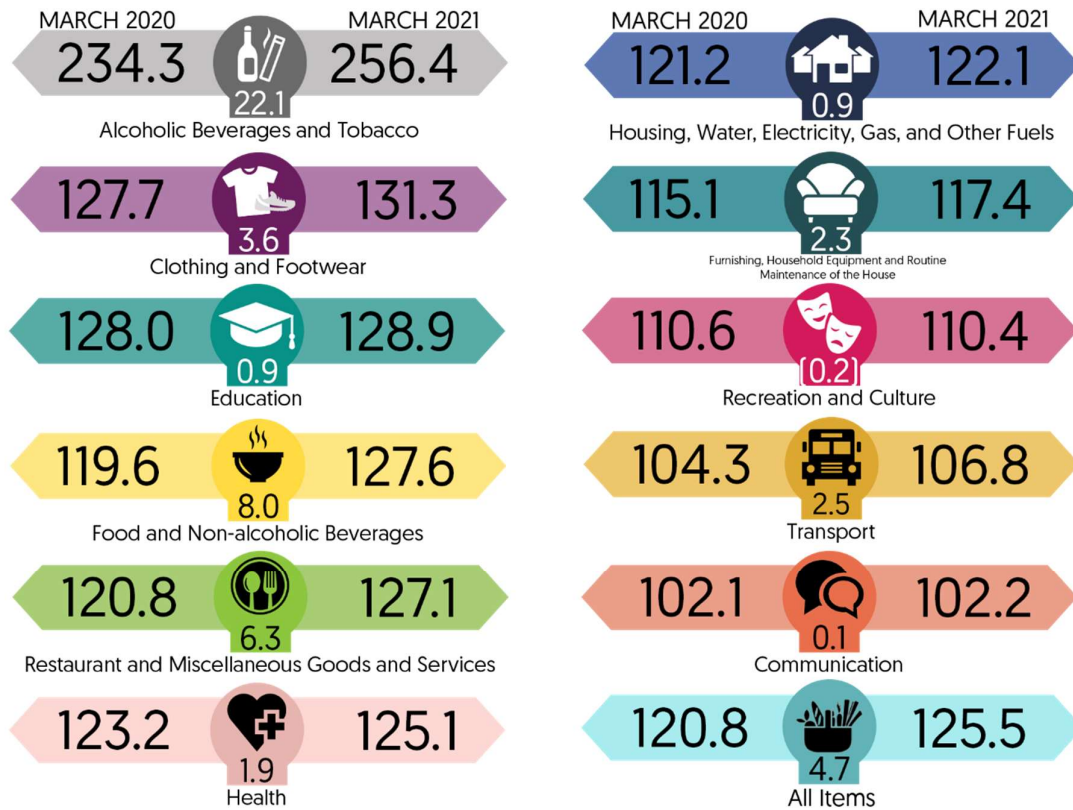




Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

- By index point change, Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco recorded the highest increase with 22.1 index points. Increases were also incurred in Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages (8.0 points), Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods and Services (6.3 points), Clothing and Footwear (3.6 points). The rest of the commodity groups reported minimal annual increases.

**Figure 3. Year-on-Year Consumer Price Index by Commodity Group,
CAR: March 2020 and 2021
(2012=100)**

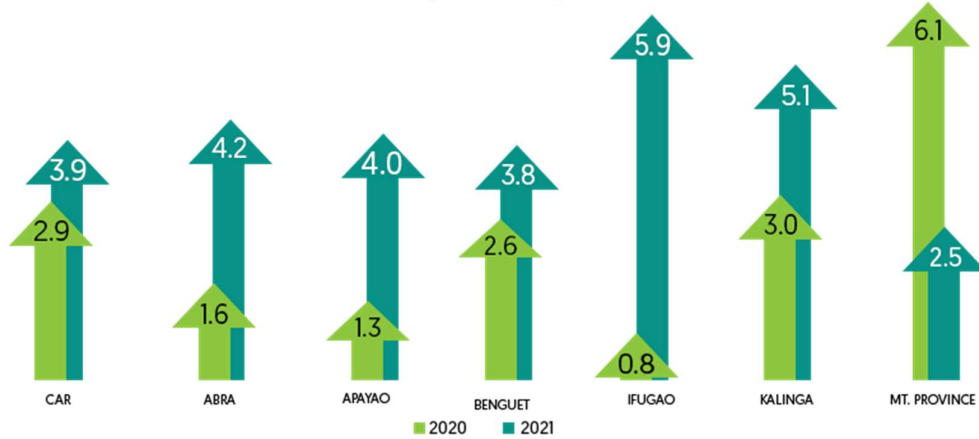


Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Inflation Rate

- The average increase in the prices of goods and services in the region was 3.9 % in March 2021, higher by 1.0 percentage point with the inflation of 2.9% in March 2020.
- Ifugao posted the highest inflation rate in March 2021 with 5.9%, followed by Kalinga with 5.1%. Mountain Province incurred the lowest inflation among all CAR provinces with 2.5%.
- Only Mountain Province had lower inflation rate for March 2021 compared to March 2020. All remaining provinces recorded higher inflation rates for March 2021 compared to March 2020.

Figure 4. Year-on-Year Inflation Rates by Province, CAR: March 2020 and 2021 (2012=100)



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

By Commodity Group

- Inflation rate of the heavily-weighted Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages decreased by 0.6 percentage points from the February 2021 rate of 7.3% to 6.7% in March 2021.
- Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco remained to have the highest inflation rate among other commodities in the region with 9.4% in March 2021 followed by Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages with 6.7%, and Restaurant and Miscellaneous Goods and Services with 5.2%.

Figure 5. Inflation Rates by Commodity Groups, CAR: March 2021 (2012=100)



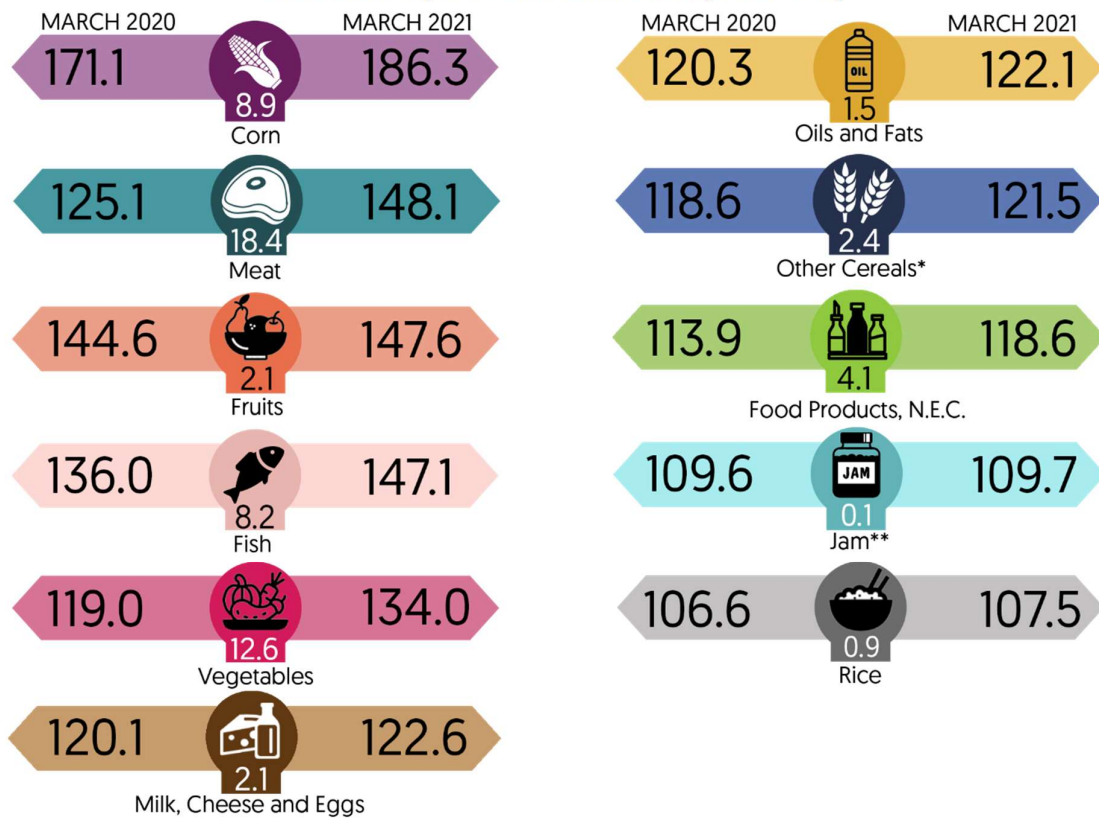
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

- Among all other commodities, Recreation and Culture incurred a deflation (decrease in the general price level of goods and services; occurs when the inflation rate falls below 0% - a negative inflation rate) with 0.2%.

By Food Items, Year-on-Year

- Among the food items, Corn recorded the highest CPI in the region in March 2021 with 186.3. This was followed by Meat, Fruits, and Fish with 148.1, 147.6, and 147.1 index points, respectively.
- By index point change, Meat recorded the highest with 18.4. Vegetables followed with 12.6 index point increase followed by Corn with 8.9.

**Figure 6. Year-on-Year CPI and Inflation Rates of Selected Food Items,
CAR: March, Year 2020 and 2021 (2012=100)**



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

**Includes sugar, honey, chocolate and confectionery

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP)

- The Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP) in all the provinces generally weakened in March 2021 compared to the same month of the previous year.
- The value of 1 peso in the region was 80 centavos in March 2021. It dropped by three centavos from 83 centavos in March 2020. Mountain Province had the highest peso value with 82 centavos, followed by Abra with 81 centavos. Meanwhile, Kalinga had the lowest peso value with 75 centavos.
- Conversely, a basket of goods that can be bought with 100 pesos in December 2012 is worth 125.7 pesos in March 2021.
- Also, the hundred pesos in 2012 was worth 80 pesos in March 2021.

**Figure 7. Worth of a Hundred Pesos by Province,
CAR: March 2020 and March 2021
(2012=₱100)**



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

VILLAFE P. ALIBUYOG
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.
