



SPECIAL RELEASE

May 2023 Price Situation in Benguet (Base Year: 2018)

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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 Province of Benguet in May 2023 was 119.1, increased by 0.1 index points from the 119.0 index last April 2023.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Income Households in Benguet,
Region and Country:
April and May 2022 and 2023
(2018=100)**

Area/Region	April		May	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
PHILIPPINES	113.4	120.9	113.9	120.9
CAR	113.6	118.5	114.1	118.5
BENGUET	114.9	119.0	114.7	119.1

Source: Retail Price Survey of Commodities for the Generation of Consumer Price Index, Philippine Statistics Authority

**Table 2. Consumer Price Index for All Income Household in Benguet
by Commodity Groups: May 2022- May 2023
(2018=100)**

Commodity Group	2022								2023				
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
ALL ITEMS	114.7	115.1	115.8	116.2	117.0	118.7	119.9	120.4	120.8	120.4	119.2	119.0	119.1
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	114.2	114.6	115.1	117.2	118.0	121.4	123.9	126.1	127.4	126.0	123.3	123.2	123.2
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	122.1	122.9	123.7	123.6	125.2	126.6	127.8	129.5	129.6	129.8	131.5	133.8	134.0
Clothing and Footwear	112.7	113.4	113.8	114.0	114.4	114.7	115.1	115.1	116.6	116.7	116.6	117.2	117.4
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	110.8	110.2	110.4	110.7	112.1	111.8	112.0	112.2	111.8	112.6	111.5	110.3	110.7
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	108.3	108.6	108.9	109.5	109.4	109.2	110.7	111.8	112.5	112.6	112.6	112.7	113.2
Health	110.9	111.6	111.6	112.3	112.7	113.0	114.0	114.7	114.5	114.5	114.3	115.1	115.1
Transport	136.9	140.2	144.3	139.4	140.0	144.0	145.6	142.2	142.1	140.9	140.1	139.3	137.6
Information and Communication	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.0	103.0	103.0	103.0	103.0	103.0	103.0	103.0
Recreation, Sport and Culture	106.0	106.4	106.8	107.1	107.5	109.2	109.8	110.0	110.4	110.9	111.4	112.0	112.7
Education Services	105.3	105.3	105.3	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.1
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	118.3	117.7	117.7	117.7	118.3	122.3	122.3	122.3	122.3	122.3	122.3	124.8	126.2
Financial Services	146.0	146.0	146.0	146.0	146.0	146.0	146.0	146.0	146.0	146.0	146.0	146.0	146.0
Personal Care, and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	113.7	114.1	115.0	115.6	115.8	116.9	117.4	117.0	117.6	117.9	118.0	119.2	119.9

CPI by Commodity Groups

- Among the commodity groups, Financial Services still had the highest CPI at 146.0 index points. It recorded a constant 146.0 CPI starting January 2022 up to this month.
- Transport Services ranked second among the commodity groups in the province at 137.6 index points in May 2023. It decreased by 1.7 index point comparing from the previous month.
- Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco still registered the third highest CPI at 134.0 index points, increased by 0.2 index point from the previous month.
- Meanwhile, Information and Communication still had the lowest CPI among the commodity groups at the provincial level with 103.0 index points.

Inflation Rate

Inflation is a rise in the general level of prices of goods and services in an economy over a period of time. When the general price level rises, each unit of currency buys fewer goods and services. A chief measure of price inflation is the inflation rate, the annualized percentage change in CPI over time.

**Figure 1. Inflation Rates in Benguet, All Items
(2018=100)**



Source: Retail Price Survey of Commodities for the Generation of Consumer Price Index, Philippine Statistics Authority

**Table 3. Year-on-Year Inflation Rates in Benguet
By Commodity Groups
In percent
(2018=100)**

Commodity Groups	May 2022	April 2023	May 2023
ALL ITEMS	9.6	3.6	3.8
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	10.0	6.7	7.9
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	7.2	10.4	9.7
Clothing and Footwear	5.0	4.8	4.2
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels	5.9	(0.7)	(0.1)
Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	2.1	4.4	4.5
Health	2.9	4.4	3.8
Transport	35.3	3.3	0.5
Information and Communication	1.4	(0.2)	(0.2)
Recreation, Sport and Culture	3.3	5.9	6.3
Education Services	(0.7)	0.8	0.8
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	9.1	5.6	6.7
Financial Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
Personal Care, and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	5.6	5.4	5.5

Source: Retail Price Survey of Commodities for the Generation of Consumer Price Index, Philippine Statistics Authority

Contrary to the trend of the inflation at the national and regional level, inflation in Benguet increased to 3.8 percent in May 2023, from 3.6 percent in April 2023. In May 2022, inflation was higher at 9.6 percent.

The main driver in the downtrend of inflation in May 2023 was food and non-alcoholic beverages at 7.9 percent, from 6.7 percent in May 2023. This was followed by housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels, at -0.1 percent, from -0.7 percent, and restaurants and accommodation services at 6.7 percent, from the 5.6 percent in the previous month.

Relative to their annual rates in the previous month, increases were also observed in the indices of the following:

- a. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance, 4.5 percent;
- b. Recreation, sport and culture, 6.3 percent; and
- c. Personal care, and miscellaneous goods and services, 5.5 percent.

On the contrary, decreases were observed in the index of the following:

- a. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco, 9.7 percent;
- b. Clothing and footwear, 4.2 percent;
- c. Health, 3.8 percent; and
- d. Transport, 0.5 percent.

Meanwhile, the rest of the commodity groups had the same inflation rates from the previous month.

Food inflation at the provincial level increased to 8.1 percent in May 2023, from 6.8 percent in April 2023. In May 2022, food inflation stood at 10.6 percent.

The higher food inflation was mainly brought about by meat and other parts of slaughtered land animals at 1.2 percent, from -4.2 percent in April 2023. It was followed by vegetables, tubers, plantains, cooking bananas and pulses at 16.6 percent, from 12.2 percent, and milk, other dairy products and eggs at 16.4 percent, from 15.4 percent in the previous month. Moreover, higher annual mark-up was observed in the index of flour, bread and other bakery products, pasta products and other cereals at 9.4 percent.

Meanwhile, lower annual growth rates were observed in the indices of the following food groups in May 2023:

- a. Rice, 3.2 percent;
- b. Fish and other seafood, 4.7 percent;
- c. Oils and fats, 15.5 percent.
- d. Fruits and nuts, 12.1 percent; and
- e. Sugar, confectionery and desserts, 34.0 percent; and
- f. Ready-made food and other food products n.e.c, 5.5 percent.

Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP)

Purchasing Power of Peso is a measure of the real value of peso in a given period relative to the base year. The nearer the base year to the current period, the higher the value of the peso derived. As the period goes farther from the base year, the value of peso diminishes as this is "eaten up" by the inflationary factors.

- The value of 1 peso in the province remained at 84 centavos in May 2023. This can be translated that one peso in 2018 was worth 84 centavos in May 2023.



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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 from base year 2012 to base year 2018. The rebasing of the CPI is done periodically by the PSA:

- 1) to ensure that the CPI market basket continues to capture goods and services commonly purchased by households over time;
- 2) to update expenditure patterns of households; and
- 3) to synchronize its base year with 2018 base year of the Gross Domestic Product and other indices produced by PSA such as Producer Price Index (PPI) for Agriculture; PPI for Manufacturing; and Value of Production Index (VaPI), Volume of Production Index (VoPI), and Value of Net Sales Index (VaNSI) for Manufacturing.

The rebasing of the CPI is also in accordance with the PSA Board Resolution No.1 Series 2017-146 which approves the synchronized rebasing of the price indices to base year 2006 and every six (6) years thereafter.

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