



SPECIAL RELEASE

2019 First Quarter Consumer Price Index and Inflation Rates of Western Visayas

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Explanatory Notes

This special release presents the 2019 Second Quarter Consumer Price Index (CPI), Inflation Rate and Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP) of Western Visayas. Data provided in this special release were taken from the results of the Bi-weekly Survey of Retail Prices of Commodities and Services for Generation of the CPI and the Weekly Survey of Retail Prices of Petroleum Products in Areas Outside NCR (AONCR). The CPI is a widely known indicator used to analyze the economic situation of the region and to monitor economic policies and development.

Western Visayas Consumer Price Index, Inflation Rate and Purchasing Power of Peso First Quarter 2018 & 2019 (2012=100)

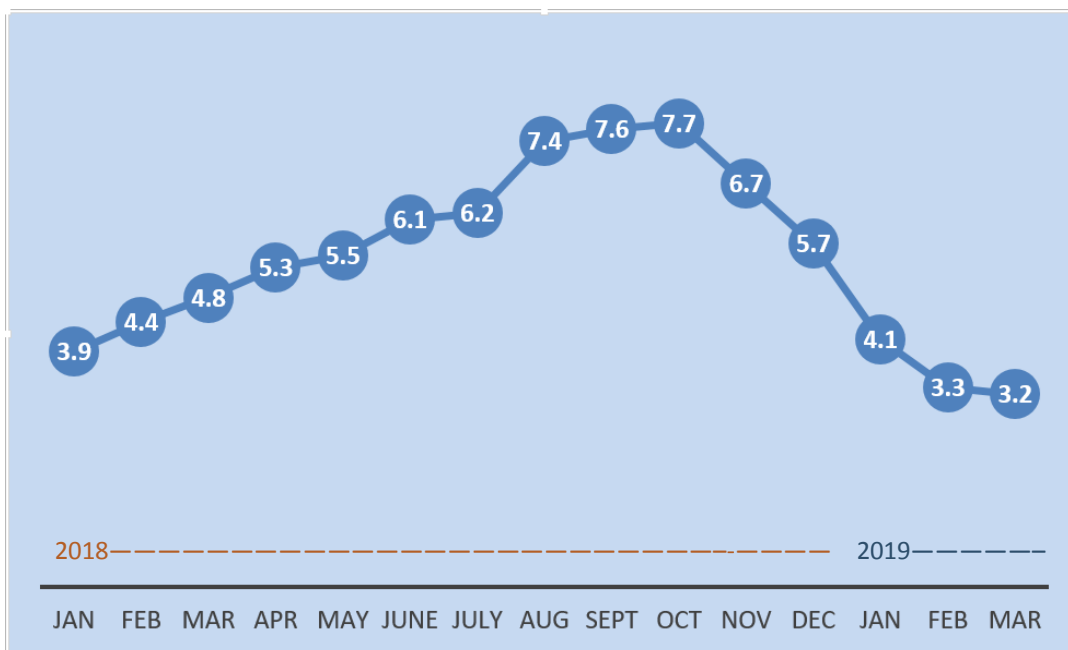
Year/Month		CPI	Inflation Rate	Purchasing Power of Peso
2019	1st Qtr	120.5	3.5	0.83
	Jan	120.5	4.1	0.83
	Feb	120.5	3.3	0.83
	Mar	120.5	3.2	0.83
2018	1st Qtr	116.4	4.4	0.86
	Jan	115.8	3.9	0.86
	Feb	116.6	4.4	0.86
	Mar	116.8	4.8	0.86

During the first three months of 2019, using 2012 as base year, Western Visayas generated Consumer Price Index (CPI) of 120.5, giving the same values per month in the 1st quarter of 2019. This means that Western Visayas households, in order to afford the same values of goods and services in the 1st quarter of 2012 at the cost of 100 pesos, need an additional 20.50 pesos in the 1st quarter of 2019.

The region posted an average inflation rate of 3.5% for the first quarter of the same year. This is a slow down compared to the 4.4% inflation rate during the same quarter in the previous year. A decreasing trend in inflation rates during the first three months of 2019 was observed, in contrast with the increase recorded in 2018.

Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP) of 0.83. in the first quarter of 2019 indicated a decrease of 0.03 from the 0.86 PPP during the same period in 2018.

**Monthly Inflation Rates in Western Visayas
January 2018-March 2019
(2012=100)**



March 2019 inflation rate at 3.2 percent marked the lowest monthly inflation rate since the 3.9 inflation rate which was recorded in January of the previous year. Inflation rates for February and March exhibited monthly decrease with 3.3 and 3.2 percent, respectively.

**Western Visayas Consumer Price Index and Inflation Rate by Commodity Group
Q1 (2018 & 2019)
(2012 = 100)**

COMMODITY GROUP	CPI (2018) Q1	CPI (2019) Q1	Inflation Rate (Q1 2019)
All items	116.4	120.5	3.5
I. Food and non-alcoholic beverages	121.2	127.3	5.0
II. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	186.1	209.7	12.7
III. Clothing and footwear	108.3	109.4	1.0
IV. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other	113.1	116.0	2.5
V. Furnishings, household equipment and	118.8	121.1	1.9
VI. Health	107.1	108.7	1.5
VII. Transport	104.5	104.4	-0.1
VIII. Communications	100.0	100.5	0.5
IX. Recreation and culture	107.0	110.0	2.8
X. Education	115.6	114.9	-0.6
XI. Restaurant and miscellaneous goods and	108.2	110.8	2.4

Majority of the commodity groups exhibited increase in prices compared with the same period in the previous year.

The highest inflation rates were observed in the alcoholic beverages and tobacco commodity group, posting 12.7 percent inflation rate, followed by Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages with 5 percent and Recreation and Culture with 2.8 percent.

Decrease in inflation rates were noted for Transport and Education commodity groups with negative 0.1 percent and negative 0.6 percent, respectively.

**Western Visayas Regional and Provincial CPI, Inflation Rate and PPP
(2012 = 100)**

Year/Month	(C P I)	Inflation	Purchasing Power of Peso (PPP)
WESTERN VISAYAS			
2019 1st Quarter	120.5	3.5	0.83
Jan	120.5	4.1	0.83
Feb	120.5	3.3	0.83
Mar	120.5	3.2	0.83
AKLAN			
2019 1st Quarter	117.2	2.0	0.85
Jan	117.5	2.6	0.85
Feb	117.4	2.3	0.85
Mar	116.6	1.0	0.86
ANTIQUE			
2019 1st Quarter	122.7	1.9	0.81
Jan	122.6	2.3	0.82
Feb	122.8	1.9	0.81
Mar	122.6	1.6	0.81
CAPIZ			
2019 1st Quarter	115.3	4.4	0.87
Jan	115.0	5.2	0.87
Feb	115.5	4.1	0.87
Mar	115.5	3.8	0.87
GUIMARAS			
2019 1st Quarter	117.1	2.8	0.86
Jan	116.7	3.2	0.86
Feb	116.9	2.6	0.86
Mar	117.6	2.5	0.85
ILOILO			
2019 1st Quarter	120.0	2.5	0.83
Jan	120.3	2.8	0.83
Feb	120.2	2.5	0.83
Mar	119.4	2.1	0.84
NEGROS OCCIDENTAL			
2019 1st Quarter	123.3	5.1	0.81
Jan	123.1	5.8	0.81
Feb	123.0	4.7	0.81
Mar	123.9	4.8	0.81

Western Visayas Monthly inflation rates for January, February and March 2019 were recorded at 4.1, 3.3 and 3.2 percent, respectively. PPP remained steady at 0.83.

Among the provinces in Western Visayas, on the average, for the first three months of 2019, Negros Occidental recorded the highest CPI of 123.3, and Capiz had the lowest CPI of 115.3.

For inflation rate, for three-month average during the first quarter of 2019, Negros Occidental reported the highest monthly average of 5.1 percent and Antique had the lowest at 1.9 percent.

The highest PPP among the provinces in Western Visayas was in Capiz with 0.87, while Negros Occidental had the lowest average PPP of 0.81 during the first quarter of 2019.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

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.

Components of the CPI

Base Year/Base period

A reference date at which the index is equal to 100. The base year is 2012.

Market Basket

A sample of the variety of goods and services commonly consumed by an average Filipino household to represent the price behavior of all goods and services brought by consumers.

Weight

A value attached to the commodity or group of commodities depending on the magnitude of its distribution to the index.

Sample Outlets

Establishments where prices of commodities are quoted.

Prices of Items in Market Basket

Baseline information for prices of the items in the base year is established and monitoring the prices of items is done on a regular basis.

Inflation Rate

The annual rate of change or the year-on-year changes in the average retail prices expressed in percent.

Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP)

The measure of how much the peso in the base period is worth in the current period. It is computed by getting the reciprocal of the CPI and multiplying the result by 100.

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