

# CPI SPECIAL RELEASE

## PSA - CORDILLERA

### March 2015

### Price Situation in the Cordillera

#### Consumer Price Index (CPI)



- The Consumer Price Index of CAR in March, 2015 was 138.3, higher by 3.3 from last year's 135.0.
- Generally, there was an increase in the CPI of all the provinces due to the increase in the average prices of goods and services.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index by Province, CAR:  
March, 2014 and March, 2015  
(2006=100)**

Province	March		Index Point Change
	2014	2015	
<b>CAR</b>	135.0	138.3	3.3
Abra	129.1	130.0	0.9
Apayao	127.7	130.2	2.5
Benguet	136.0	141.1	5.1
Ifugao	140.6	141.8	1.2
Kalinga	132.4	132.7	0.3
Mt. Province	139.5	142.3	2.8

- Among provinces, Mt. Province posted the highest CPI at 142.3 followed by Ifugao at 141.8 and Benguet at 141.1. On the other hand, Abra posted the lowest at 130.0.
- In terms of index point change, Benguet reported the highest at 5.1 while Kalinga was lowest at 0.3.
- The Consumer Price Index 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.



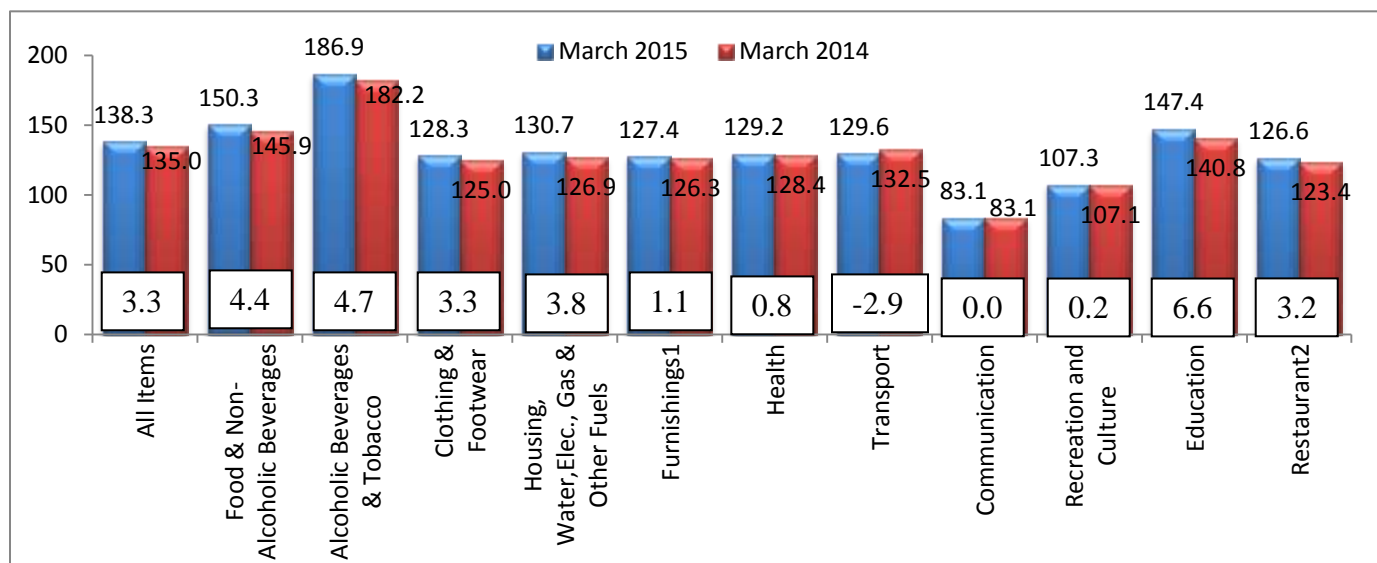
**Table 2. Consumer Price Index by Commodity Group and by Province, CAR:  
March, 2015  
(2006=100)**

Commodity Group	Province						
	CAR	Abra	Apayao	Benguet	Ifugao	Kalinga	Mt. Province
All Items	138.3	130.0	130.2	141.1	141.8	132.7	142.3
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	150.3	138.4	146.4	156.5	150.5	140.6	151.4
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	186.9	194.8	186.5	190.3	175.6	190.9	168.1
Clothing and Footwear	128.3	139.7	115.6	123.3	144.9	119.1	144.1
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	130.7	111.7	104.9	143.4	130.8	110.2	129.5
Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House	127.4	121.7	113.4	131.5	116.9	132.3	133.5
Health	129.2	119.3	109.7	135.3	113.9	125.7	131.4
Transport	129.6	148.5	114.9	127.3	131.9	142.5	122.5
Communication	83.1	111.3	77.7	79.9	99.1	77.9	86.3
Recreation and Culture	107.3	107.4	115.6	104.5	106.3	113.5	110.4
Education	147.4	143.8	140.9	138.3	155.8	157.3	175.5
Restaurants and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	126.6	114.8	132.3	124.9	144.7	127.2	133.3

### **CPI by Commodity Groups**

- ✚ Among the commodity groups, under *Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco*, Abra had the highest consumer price index at 194.8 followed by Kalinga and Benguet at 190.9 and 190.3, respectively.
- ✚ *Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages* came next with Benguet having the most at 156.5 followed by Mt. Province at 151.4.
- ✚ *Education* had the third highest index by commodity group with Mt. Province having the most at 175.5 followed by Kalinga at 157.3.
- ✚ *Communication* had the lowest consumer price index. Abra posted the highest index at 111.3 while Apayao had the lowest at 77.7.
- ✚ Across provinces, Apayao posted the lowest index except for *Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages*, *Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco*, *Recreation and Culture*; and *Restaurants and Miscellaneous Goods and Services*.
- ✚ By index point change, *Education* recorded the highest change at 6.6 index. This was followed by *Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco* and *Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages* at 4.7 and 4.4, respectively.
- ✚ The rest of the commodity groups reported a minimal annual increase in their index point change. Transport had a negative percent change.

**Figure 1. Year-on-Year Consumer Price Index by Commodity Group,  
CAR: March, 2014 and March, 2015  
(2006=100)**



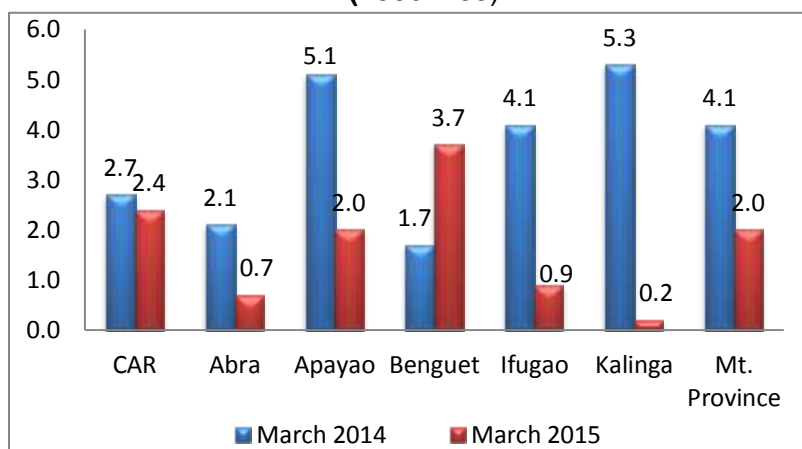
**Note:**  
<sup>1</sup> includes Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House  
<sup>2</sup> includes Miscellaneous Goods and Services

## Inflation Rate



- The Inflation Rate of CAR in March, 2015 was 2.4 percent, lower by 0.3 percentage points from last year's Inflation Rate.
- Benguet posted the highest rate of 3.7 percent, followed by Apayao and Mt. Province, both at 2.0 percent. On the other hand, Kalinga posted the lowest Inflation Rate at 0.2 percent.
- March, 2015 Inflation Rate in all provinces is lower compared to last year except for Benguet that increased in its inflation rate. It showed that the rate of change in the average prices in Benguet is fast compared with the provinces that decreased in their inflation rates.

**Figure 2. Year-on-Year Inflation Rates by Province, CAR:  
March, 2014 and March, 2015  
(2006=100)**



### **By Commodity Group, Year-on-Year**

- ✚ The annual inflation for *All Items* in the Cordillera was 2.4. Among the regions, CAR had the higher annual gains.
- ✚ By commodity, the year-on-year growth of the heavily-weighted *Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages* index in the Cordillera was 3.0 percent. *Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco; Clothing and Footwear; Furnishing, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance of the House; Health and Communication* decreased in their inflation rates. *Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels* and *Restaurants and Miscellaneous Good and Services* increased in their inflation rates. *Recreation and Culture* and *Education* indices remained compared to the previous years' indices. *Transport* had a negative index although it increased in its inflation rate.

**Table 3. Year-on-Year Inflation Rates by Commodity Groups,  
CAR: March 2015 and February 2015  
(2006 = 100)**

Commodity Group	Inflation Rates	
	March	February
All Items	2.4	2.2
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	3.0	2.9
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.6	3.7
Clothing and Footwear	2.6	2.7
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	3.0	2.2
Furnishing, Household Equipment & Routine Maintenance of the House	0.9	1.2
Health	0.6	0.8
Transport	-2.2	-2.5
Communication	0.0	0.1
Recreation and Culture	0.2	0.2
Education	4.7	4.7
Restaurants and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	2.6	2.5

### **By Commodity Group, Month-on-Month**

- ✚ In the region, the inflation rate for *All Items* was at 0.0 percent during the month compared to the previous month. The *Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages* index also decreased at -0.3 percent. There was no change in the inflation rates for the following commodity groups: *Furnishing, Household Equipment & Routine Maintenance of the House, Communication and Education*.

**Table 4. Month-on-Month Inflation Rates by Commodity Groups,  
CAR: March 2015 and February 2015  
(2006 = 100)**

Commodity Group	Inflation Rates	
	March	February
All Items	0.0	-0.3
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	-0.3	-0.6
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	0.2	0.4
Clothing and Footwear	0.1	0.2
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	0.5	-0.3
Furnishing, Household Equipment & Routine Maintenance of the House	0.0	0.0
Health	0.0	0.1
Transport	0.5	0.4
Communication	0.0	0.0
Recreation and Culture	0.1	0.0
Education	0.0	0.0
Restaurants and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	0.2	0.1

### **By Food Items, Year-on-Year**

- ✚ Generally, for the year-on-year inflation rates of selected food items for the region, there was decrease for some food items. There was an annual increase in the other food items. *Fruits* index resulted in a two-digit value and had the highest increase of 3.0 in its inflation rate from 11.4% to 14.4%.
- ✚ *Oils and Fats* remained in its inflation rate.

**Table 5. Year-on-Year Inflation Rates of Selected Food Items,  
CAR: March and February 2015 and 2014  
(2006 = 100)**

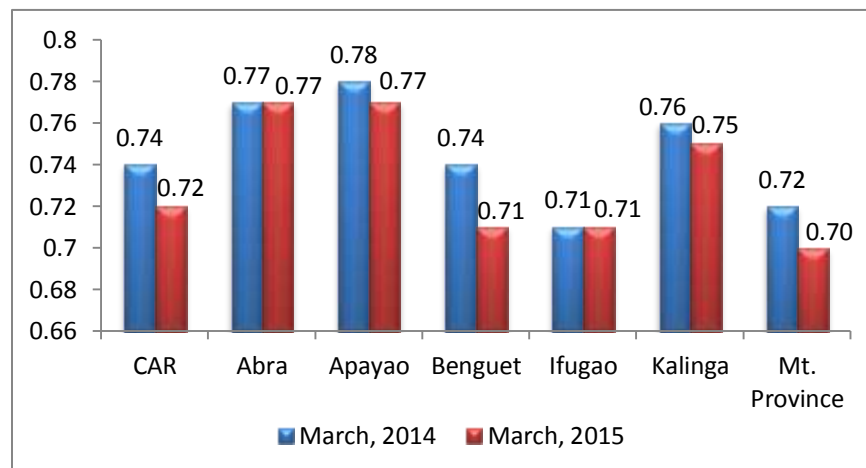
Food Items	2015		2014		Inflation Rates	
	March	February	March	February	Current	Previous
Bread and Cereals	150.9	151.0	145.8	145.1	3.5	4.1
Rice	146.7	146.8	141.2	140.6	3.9	4.4
Corn	156.9	157.2	155.2	152.1	1.1	3.4
Other Cereals*	165.1	165.1	161.5	160.4	2.2	2.9
Meat	134.1	134.3	131.1	130.9	2.3	2.6
Fish	162.6	162.5	156.1	157.1	4.2	3.4
Milk, Cheese and Eggs	134.0	133.5	131.6	131.6	1.8	1.4
Oils and Fats	178.4	178.1	176.9	176.7	0.8	0.8
Fruits	190.1	190.0	166.1	170.6	14.4	11.4
Vegetables	158.0	162.5	162.3	169.3	-2.6	-4.0
Sugar, Jam, Honey, Chocolate & Confectionery	132.8	133.2	129.6	129.5	2.5	2.9
Food Products, N.E.C.	169.8	170.3	158.5	155.5	7.1	9.5

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

### Purchasing Power of the Peso (PPP)

- The value of the peso in CAR dropped to 72 centavos from last year's 74 centavos. Meaning, that market value of goods and services worth 72 centavos in March, 2006 were bought at one peso in March, 2015.
- Compared to March, 2014, the Purchasing Power of the Peso of four provinces decreased. Abra and Ifugao remained in their PPP.
- Abra and Apayao had the highest peso value, both at 77 centavos followed by Kalinga at 75 centavos. On the other hand, Mt. Province had the lowest peso value at 70 centavos.

**Figure 3. Purchasing Power of the Peso by Province, CAR:  
March, 2014 and March, 2015  
(2006=100)**



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### *Explanatory Notes*

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**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 zero.

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

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