

SPECIAL RELEASE

BILIRAN PROVINCE INFLATION RATE INCREASES TO 1.1 PERCENT IN FEBRUARY 2025

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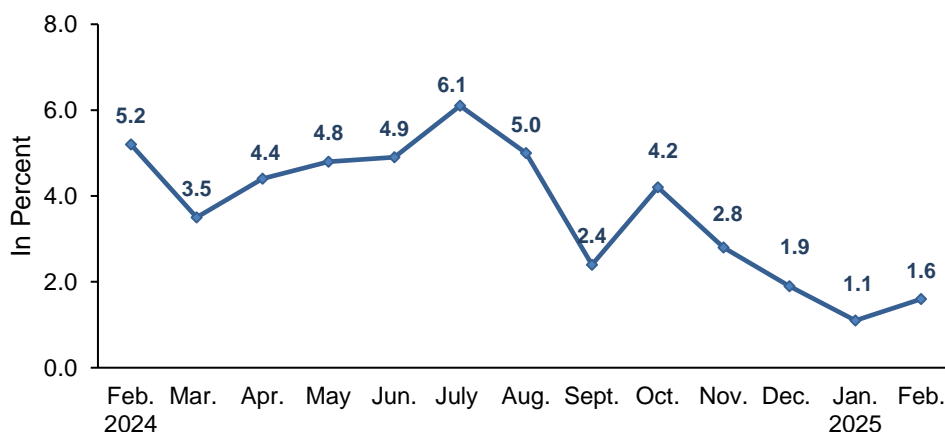
INFLATION RATE

The inflation rate (IR) in Biliran Province increased to 1.6 percent in February 2025 which is higher by 0.5 percentage points than the recorded IR of 1.1 percent in January 2025. In February 2024, the IR was higher at 5.2 percent. (Figure 1)

The provincial IR of 1.6 percent in February 2025 is lower by 0.5 percentage points than the national IR of 2.1 percent. In contrast, the provincial IR is higher by 0.5 percentage points than the regional IR of 1.1 percent. (Table A)

PRICE SITUATION: YEAR-ON-YEAR

Figure 1. Monthly Inflation Rate: Biliran
February 2024 - February 2025 (2018=100)



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

Among the six (6) provinces and the lone Highly Urbanized City (HUC) in Eastern Visayas, Biliran recorded the second highest inflation rate in February 2025. (Table A)



Table A. Comparative Consumer Price Index, Inflation Rate, & Purchasing Power of Peso, National and Region VIII: January to February 2025 and February 2024 (2018 = 100)

Area	February 2025			January 2025			February 2024		
	CPI	IR	PPP	CPI	IR	PPP	CPI	IR	PPP
Philippines	128.1	2.1	0.78	128.4	2.9	0.78	125.5	3.4	0.80
Region VIII	126.1	1.1	0.79	126.1	1.3	0.79	124.7	3.7	0.80
Biliran	123.5	1.6	0.81	122.6	1.1	0.82	121.5	5.2	0.82
Eastern Samar	128.9	1.8	0.78	129.9	3.0	0.77	126.6	3.5	0.79
Leyte	125.6	1.5	0.80	124.9	1.1	0.80	123.7	3.1	0.81
Tacloban City	121.2	1.1	0.83	120.7	1.0	0.83	119.9	2.5	0.83
Northern Samar	125.7	0.7	0.80	126.4	0.8	0.79	124.8	4.2	0.80
Samar	130.6	0.1	0.77	131.5	0.5	0.76	130.5	5.7	0.77
Southern Leyte	124.0	1.1	0.81	123.9	2.2	0.81	122.6	3.4	0.82

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

In February 2025, the province recorded an IR of 1.6 percent for all income households. This refers to All Items or the provincial market basket which represents the goods and services commonly purchased by households in Biliran. (Table A)

The uptrend in the province's inflation in February 2025 was primarily influenced by food and non-alcoholic beverages with an annual increase of 0.1 percent from an annual decrease of 0.9 percent in January 2025. Housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels came in next with 2.1 percent during the month from 0.3 percent in the previous month. These commodity groups accounted for 62.2 percent and 37.8 percent share to the uptrend in the inflation rate in the province, respectively.

On the other hand, lower year-on-year price movements in February 2025 were observed in the following commodity groups:

- Clothing and footwear at 6.0 percent from 6.4 percent;
- Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance at 6.4 percent from 6.6 percent;
- Health at 3.4 percent from 3.5 percent;
- Transport at 0.8 percent from 1.4 percent;
- Recreation, sport and culture at 7.7 percent from 8.4 percent;
- Restaurants and accommodation services at 2.9 percent from 3.6 percent; and
- Personal care, and miscellaneous goods and services at 6.5 percent from 7.0 percent.

Meanwhile, the the rest of the commodity group retained their respective previous month's annual rates. (Table 1)

Food inflation in the province recorded a slower annual decline of 0.4 percent in February 2025 from an annual decline of 1.5 percent in January 2025. The acceleration of food inflation rate in February 2025 was mainly influenced by fish and other seafood with a slower annual decrease of 0.8 percent during the month from 4.9 percent annual decrease in the previous month. This was followed by meat and other parts of slaughtered land animals with 8.2 percent during the month from 4.2 percent in the previous month. Fruits and nuts also contributed to the trend with 11.1 percent during the month from 5.0 percent in the previous month. (Table 1)

In addition, ready-made food and other food products not elsewhere classified (n.e.c) recorded 9.3 percent faster annual increase during the month from 8.9 percent in the previous month.

Rice, the central commodity of Filipinos, exhibited faster annual decrease in its inflation rate at 10.3 percent in February 2025 from an annual decrease of 9.1 percent in January 2025. The corn also recorded an faster annual decline of 5.2 percent from an annual decrease of 4.1 percent.

Meanwhile, lower food inflation rate was observed in the following food items:

- a. Flour, bread and other bakery products, pasta products at 2.8 percent from 3.0 percent;
- b. Milk, other dairy products and eggs at 4.3 percent from 4.8 percent;
- c. Oils and fats at 3.3 percent from 4.3 percent;
- d. Vegetables, tubers, plantains, cooking bananas and pulses at 8.5 percent from 9.0 percent; and
- e. Sugar, confectionery and desserts at 0.1 percent from 1.3 percent.

The non-food category in general recorded faster growth of 3.2 percent during the month from 2.9 percent in the previous month. (Table 1)

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) in February 2025 was recorded at 123.5 percent. This implies that the average level of prices of consumer food and services purchased by households in February 2025 was higher by 23.5 percent compared with the prices in 2018. (Table 2)

Moreover, the provincial CPI in February 2025 is lower by 2.6 percentage points and 4.6 percentage points than the regional and national CPI levels, respectively. (Table A)

Ten (10) of the 13 commodity groups observed increase in its CPI levels in February 2025. These groups are food and non-alcoholic beverages; alcoholic beverages and tobacco; clothing and footwear; housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels; furnishings, household



equipment and routine household maintenance; health; transport; information and communication; recreation, sport and culture; and personal care, and miscellaneous goods and services.

Meanwhile, the rest of the commodity groups retained its previous month's CPI levels.

By commodity group, the financial services still posted the highest CPI level at 162.2 percent. This was followed by the transport group and the food and non-alcoholic beverages group with CPI levels of 129.8 percent and 126.8 percent, respectively. On the other hand, the information and communication group recorded the least CPI with 106.8 percent. (Table 2)

In general, the CPI of the food index increased to 126.5 percent during the month from 125.4 percent in the previous month.

During the month, the following food items observed higher CPI levels:

- a. Rice at 110.0 percent from 109.5 percent;
- b. Flour, bread and other bakery products, pasta products and other cereals at 119.7 percent from 119.5 percent;
- c. Meat and other parts of slaughtered land animals at 149.4 percent from 145.2 percent;
- d. Fish and other seafood at 128.5 percent from 126.7 percent;
- e. Milk, other dairy products and eggs at 124.8 percent from 124.6 percent;
- f. Oils and fats at 126.5 percent from 126.4 percent;
- g. Fruits and nuts at 149.6 percent from 147.8 percent; and
- h. Ready-made food and other food products n.e.c. at 134.7 percent from 133.5 percent.

In contrast, lower CPI levels were observed in vegetables, tubers, plantains, cooking bananas and pulses, and in sugar, confectionery and desserts at 143.8 percent and 144.0 percent from its previous CPI levels of 145.0 percent and 144.5 percent, respectively.

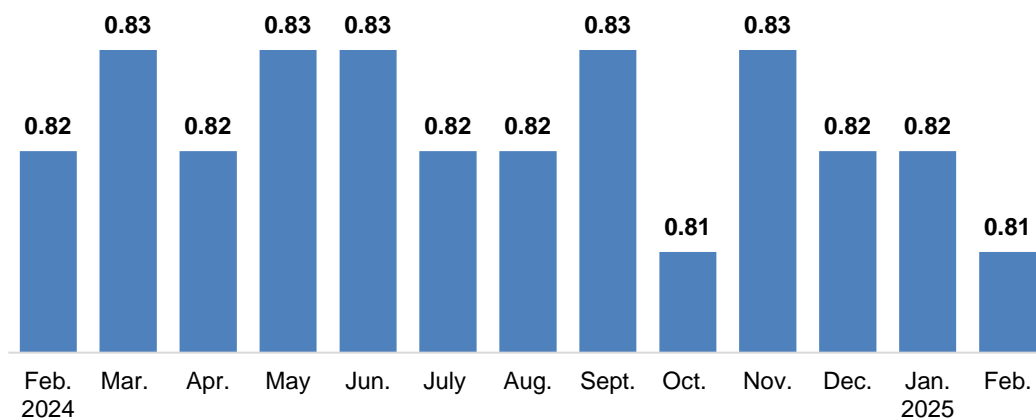
Meanwhile, only the corn retained its CPI level from the previous month at 124.4 percent.

The non-food category recorded higher CPI level at 120.5 percent in February 2025 from 119.7 percent in January 2025. (Table 2)

PURCHASING POWER OF PESO (PPP)

The price changes reflected in the CPI caused the value of the national currency in Biliran to have a value of Php 0.81. This PPP implies that the goods and services worth Php 1.00 in 2018 is now worth Php 0.81 in February 2025 or you will need Php 123.5 to buy the same goods and services worth Php 100 in 2018. (Table A and Figure 2)

Figure 2. Purchasing Power of Peso: Biliran,
February 2024 - February 2025
(2018=100)



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



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Annexes:

1. Table 1. Inflation Rate by Commodity Group, Biliran: January to February 2025 and February 2024 (2018=100)
2. Table 2. Consumer Price Index by Commodity Group, Biliran: January to February 2025 and February 2024 (2018=100)
3. Technical Notes

Table 1. Inflation Rate by Commodity Group, Biliran: January to February 2025 and February 2024 (2018 = 100)

COMMODITY GROUP	February 2025	January 2025	February 2024
ALL ITEMS	1.6	1.1	5.2
I. FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	0.1	-0.9	8.6
* Food	-0.4	-1.5	8.9
Cereals and Cereal Products	-7.7	-6.7	24.9
Cereals	-10.3	-9.1	31.4
Rice	-10.3	-9.1	31.4
Corn	-5.2	-4.1	30.8
Flour, Bread and Other Bakery Products, Pasta Products, and Other Cereals	2.8	3.0	3.7
Meat and Other Parts of Slaughtered Land Animals	8.2	4.2	-0.9
Fish and Other Seafood	-0.8	-4.9	1.3
Milk, Other Dairy Products, and Eggs	4.3	4.8	3.5
Oils and Fats	3.3	4.3	5.2
Fruits and Nuts	11.1	5.0	3.1
Vegetables, Tubers, Cooking Bananas and Pulses	8.5	9.0	-7.0
Sugar, Confectionery and Desserts	0.1	1.3	1.8
Ready-Made Food and Other Food Products N.E.C.	9.3	8.9	5.2
* Non-alcoholic Beverages	6.4	6.3	3.5
II. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	2.5	2.5	5.0
Alcoholic Beverages	0.9	1.0	2.1
Tobacco	3.9	3.8	8.0
NON-FOOD	3.2	2.9	2.0
III. CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	6.0	6.4	5.2
Clothing	6.0	6.3	5.2
Footwear	6.1	6.5	5.3
IV. HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	2.1	0.3	0.2
Actual Rentals for Housing	1.3	1.3	0.4
Maintenance, Repair and Security of the Dwelling	3.0	2.6	3.3
Water Supply and Miscellaneous Services Relating to the Dwelling	0.0	0.0	0.0
Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	2.9	-1.2	-0.5
V. FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE	6.4	6.6	3.8
Furniture and Furnishings, and Loose Carpets	4.0	4.9	2.7
Household Textiles	3.1	3.3	2.6
Household Appliances	4.0	3.6	4.5
Glassware, Tableware and Household Utensils	13.1	13.1	8.8
Tools and Equipment for House and Garden	4.3	4.8	2.7
Goods and Services for Routine Household Maintenance	7.4	7.6	3.7
VI. HEALTH	3.4	3.5	1.8
Medicines and Health Products	2.1	2.2	1.6
Outpatient Care Services	10.9	10.9	4.0



COMMODITY GROUP	February 2025	January 2025	February 2024
Inpatient Care Services	0.8	0.8	0.0
Other Health Services	1.4	1.2	0.0
VII. TRANSPORT	0.8	1.4	-0.9
Purchase of Vehicles	2.6	2.5	0.0
Operation of Personal Transport Equipment	0.2	2.4	-2.9
Passenger Transport Services	-0.2	-0.4	0.0
Transport Services of Goods	0.8	0.0	1.2
VIII. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION	2.7	2.7	0.6
Information and Communication Equipment	5.0	5.1	0.9
Information and Communication Services	0.2	0.1	0.2
IX. RECREATION, SPORT AND CULTURE	7.7	8.4	6.2
Recreational Durables	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Recreational Goods	3.0	3.6	9.3
Garden Products and Pets	5.1	5.6	10.1
Recreational Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cultural Goods	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cultural Services	-	-	-
Newspapers, Books and Stationery	13.9	15.4	9.4
X. EDUCATION SERVICES	0.0	0.0	6.3
Early Childhood and Primary Education	0.0	0.0	12.2
Secondary Education	0.0	0.0	3.2
Tertiary Education	-	-	-
Education Not Defined by Level	-	-	-
XI. RESTAURANTS AND ACCOMMODATION SERVICES	2.9	3.6	9.1
Food and Beverage Serving Services	3.2	3.8	9.9
Accommodation Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
XII. FINANCIAL SERVICES	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Financial Services	0.0	0.0	-0.1
XIII. PERSONAL CARE, AND MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	6.5	7.0	3.6
Personal Care	6.6	7.1	3.7
Other Personal Effects	6.6	6.9	3.3
Other Services	0.0	0.0	3.1

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

Note: - no data available

Table 2. Consumer Price Index by Commodity Group, Biliran: January to February 2025 and February 2024 (2018 = 100)

COMMODITY GROUP	February 2025	January 2024	February 2024
ALL ITEMS	123.5	122.6	121.5
I. FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	126.8	125.7	126.7
* Food	126.5	125.4	127.0
Cereals and Cereal Products	112.0	111.6	121.4
Cereals	110.1	109.6	122.7
Rice	110.0	109.5	122.6
Corn	124.4	124.4	131.1
Flour, Bread and Other Bakery Products, Pasta Products, and Other Cereals	119.7	119.5	116.4
Meat and Other Parts of Slaughtered Land Animals	149.4	145.2	138.1
Fish and Other Seafood	128.5	126.7	129.6
Milk, Other Dairy Products, and Eggs	124.8	124.6	119.6
Oils and Fats	126.5	126.4	122.4
Fruits and Nuts	149.6	147.8	134.6
Vegetables, Tubers, Cooking Bananas and Pulses	143.8	145.0	132.5
Sugar, Confectionery and Desserts	144.0	144.5	143.8
Ready-Made Food and Other Food Products N.E.C.	134.7	133.5	123.2
* Non-alcoholic Beverages	130.5	129.7	122.7
II. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	125.2	124.6	122.2
Alcoholic Beverages	120.0	119.9	118.9
Tobacco	130.5	129.4	125.6
NON-FOOD	120.5	119.7	116.8
III. CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	123.7	123.4	116.7
Clothing	127.1	126.7	119.9
Footwear	115.1	114.8	108.5
IV. HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	117.0	115.4	114.6
Actual Rentals for Housing	107.3	107.3	105.9
Maintenance, Repair and Security of the Dwelling	120.1	119.4	116.6
Water Supply and Miscellaneous Services Relating to the Dwelling	102.5	102.5	102.5
Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	129.4	125.5	125.7
V. FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE	122.2	121.9	114.8
Furniture and Furnishings, and Loose Carpets	116.6	116.6	112.1
Household Textiles	111.2	110.8	107.9
Household Appliances	119.7	118.8	115.1
Glassware, Tableware and Household Utensils	131.6	129.6	116.4
Tools and Equipment for House and Garden	114.6	114.5	109.9
Goods and Services for Routine Household Maintenance	123.9	123.8	115.4
VI. HEALTH	116.2	116.1	112.4
Medicines and Health Products	117.4	117.3	115.0
Outpatient Care Services	123.6	123.6	111.5

COMMODITY GROUP	February 2025	January 2024	February 2024
Inpatient Care Services	103.0	103.0	102.2
Other Health Services	105.9	105.7	104.4
VII. TRANSPORT	129.8	129.0	128.8
Purchase of Vehicles	100.2	100.1	97.7
Operation of Personal Transport Equipment	128.2	125.8	127.9
Passenger Transport Services	174.7	174.7	175.1
Transport Services of Goods	105.7	105.7	105.7
VIII. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION	106.8	106.6	104.0
Information and Communication Equipment	111.6	111.4	106.3
Information and Communication Services	101.8	101.7	101.6
IX. RECREATION, SPORT AND CULTURE	120.5	120.0	111.9
Recreational Durables	100.0	100.0	100.0
Other Recreational Goods	117.5	117.4	114.1
Garden Products and Pets	147.8	147.4	140.6
Recreational Services	92.4	92.4	92.4
Cultural Goods	102.6	102.6	102.6
Cultural Services	-	-	-
Newspapers, Books and Stationery	136.9	136.0	120.2
X. EDUCATION SERVICES	115.7	115.7	115.7
Early Childhood and Primary Education	118.7	118.7	118.7
Secondary Education	114.0	114.0	114.0
Tertiary Education	-	-	-
Education Not Defined by Level	-	-	-
XI. RESTAURANTS AND ACCOMMODATION SERVICES	124.7	124.7	121.2
Food and Beverage Serving Services	127.2	127.2	123.3
Accommodation Services	100.0	100.0	100.0
XII. FINANCIAL SERVICES	162.2	162.2	162.2
Financial Services	162.2	162.2	162.2
XIII. PERSONAL CARE, AND MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	115.6	115.1	108.5
Personal Care	115.9	115.4	108.7
Other Personal Effects	115.5	114.9	108.3
Other Services	92.6	92.6	92.6

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

Note: - no data available

TECHNICAL NOTES

The current CPI series is 2018-based. The five steps involved in the rebasing/computing of the CPI are as follows: (1) identification of the base year; (2) determination of the market basket; (3) determination of household consumption patterns; (4) monitoring of prices of items in the basket; and (5) computation of the CPI.

REBASING THE 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, the sample outlets, the weights and the based year had to be done periodically.

MARKET BASKET – refers to a sample of goods and services used to represent all goods and services bought by a particular group of consumers in a particular area.

WEIGHTS – is a value attached to a commodity or group of commodities to indicate the relative importance of that commodity or group of commodities in the market basket. The weights for the 2018-based CPI were derived from the expenditure data of the 2018 Family Income and Expenditure Survey.

MONITORING OF PRICES – is to establish baseline information for prices of the items in the based year and monitoring of the prices of the items on a regular basis.

COMPUTING THE CPI – the formula uses straightforward computation of monthly average prices of commodities; chain method for elementary items indexes; geometric mean method at the lowest level (subclass level) of aggregation of price indexes; and weighted arithmetic mean at the higher levels of aggregation of the price indexes.

RETAIL PRICE – refers to the actual price at which retailers sell a commodity on spot or earliest delivery. Usually in small quantities for consumption and not for resale. It is confined to transactions on cash basis in the free market and excludes black-market prices of commodities that are on sale as in summer sales, anniversary sales, Christmas sales, etc.

