

SPECIAL RELEASE

BILIRAN PROVINCE INFLATION RATE SLOWS DOWN TO 1.1 PERCENT IN APRIL 2025

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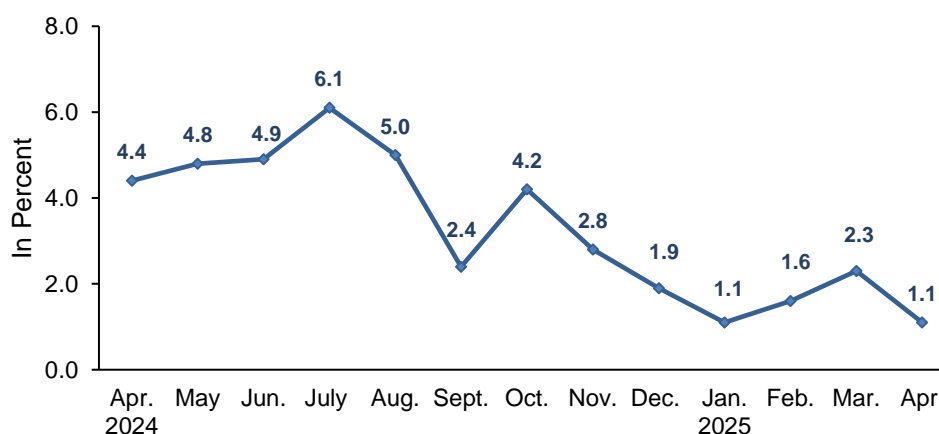
INFLATION RATE

The inflation rate (IR) in Biliran Province slows down to 1.1 percent in April 2025 which is lower by 1.2 percentage points than the recorded IR of 2.3 percent in March 2025. In April 2024, the IR was higher at 4.4 percent. (Figure 1)

The provincial IR of 1.1 percent in April 2025 is lower by 0.3 percentage points than the national IR of 1.4 percent. In contrast, it is higher by 0.5 percentage points than the regional IR of 0.6 percent. (Table A)

PRICE SITUATION: YEAR-ON-YEAR

Figure 1. Monthly Inflation Rate: Biliran
April 2024 - April 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 April 2025. (Table A)

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

Area	April 2025			March 2025			April 2024		
	CPI	IR	PPP	CPI	IR	PPP	CPI	IR	PPP
Philippines	127.3	1.4	0.79	127.8	1.8	0.78	125.5	3.8	0.80
Region VIII	124.9	0.6	0.80	125.6	1.0	0.80	124.1	3.6	0.81
Biliran	122.9	1.1	0.81	123.7	2.3	0.81	121.6	4.4	0.82
Eastern Samar	126.1	0.5	0.79	129.0	3.2	0.78	125.5	4.0	0.80
Leyte	125.1	1.5	0.80	124.8	0.8	0.80	123.3	3.4	0.81
Tacloban City	121.1	0.9	0.83	120.4	0.2	0.83	120.0	3.2	0.83
Northern Samar	124.0	0.1	0.81	125.3	0.8	0.80	123.9	2.0	0.81
Samar	127.8	-0.9	0.78	129.5	-0.2	0.77	128.9	4.1	0.78
Southern Leyte	122.8	0.0	0.81	124.1	1.1	0.81	122.8	4.8	0.81

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

In April 2025, the province recorded an IR of 1.1 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 downtrend in the province's inflation in April 2025 was primarily influenced by food and non-alcoholic beverages with an annual decrease of 0.7 percent in April 2025 from an annual increase of 0.5 percent in March 2025. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels came in next with 2.6 percent during the month from 5.8 percent in the previous month. Also contributing to the downtrend was transport at 0.8 percent annual decrease from 0.5 percent annual increase. These commodity groups accounted for 44.0 percent, 39.6 percent, and 10.4 percent share to the downtrend in the inflation rate of the province, respectively.

Moreover, lower year-on-year price movements in April 2025 were observed in the following commodity groups:

- Clothing and footwear at 5.5 percent from 6.0 percent;
- Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance at 6.0 percent from 6.2 percent;
- Health at 3.1 percent from 3.3 percent;
- Recreation, sport and culture at 6.5 percent from 6.9 percent;
- Restaurants and accommodation services at 2.5 percent from 2.7 percent; and
- Personal care, and miscellaneous goods and services at 5.8 percent from 6.3 percent.

On the other hand, the IR for alcoholic beverages and tobacco, and for information and communication both increased to 2.8 percent, from its previous IRs of 2.4 percent and 2.5 percent, respectively.

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

Food inflation in the province recorded an annual decrease of 1.3 percent inflation in April 2025 from a zero percent inflation in March 2025. In April 2024, food inflation was higher at 7.2 percent.

The deceleration of food inflation rate in April 2025 was mainly influenced by fish and other seafood with slower annual increase of 0.3 percent during the month from 2.9 percent in March 2025. This was followed by meat and other parts of slaughtered land animals with slower annual increase of 10.9 percent during the month from 13.4 percent in the previous month. Vegetables, tubers, plantains, cooking bananas and pulses also contributed to the trend with 14.9 percent from 18.3 percent.

In addition, lower inflation rates were observed in the following food items:

- a. Flour, bread, and other bakery products, pasta products and other cereals at 2.7 percent from 2.9 percent;
- b. Milk, other dairy products and eggs at 4.5 percent from 4.7 percent;
- c. Fruits and nuts at 4.0 percent from 8.0 percent; and
- d. Ready-made food and other food products not elsewhere classified (n.e.c) at 8.3 percent from 9.5 percent.

Rice, the central commodity of Filipinos, exhibited faster annual decrease in its IR at 15.3 percent in April 2025 from an annual decrease of 15.1 percent in March 2025. The sugar, confectionery and desserts also recorded an annual decline of 0.1 percent from an annual increase of 0.4 percent.

On the other hand, oils and fats recorded a 4.3 percent inflation during the month from 4.0 percent inflation in the previous month.

Meanwhile, only the corn retained its inflation rate from the previous month at an annual decrease of 6.3 percent.

The non-food category in general slowed down to 2.7 percent during the month from 4.1 percent in the previous month. (Table 1)

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) in April 2025 was recorded at 122.9 percent. This implies that the average level of prices of consumer food and services purchased by households in April 2025 was higher by 22.9 percent compared with the prices in 2018. (Table 2)

Moreover, the provincial CPI in April 2025 is lower by 2.0 percentage points and 4.4 percentage points than the regional and national CPI levels, respectively. (Table A)

Three (3) of the 13 commodity groups observed decrease in its CPI levels in April 2025. These groups are food and non-alcoholic beverages; housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels; and transport.

On the other hand, eight (8) of the 13 commodity groups observed increase in its CPI levels. These groups are alcoholic beverages and tobacco; clothing and footwear; furnishings, household equipment and routine household; health; information and communication; recreation, sport and culture; restaurants and accommodation services; 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 alcoholic beverages and tobacco with CPI levels at 128.9 percent and 126.7 percent, respectively. On the other hand, the information and communication group recorded the least CPI with 107.3 percent. (Table 2)

In general, food index recorded a decrease in its CPI level at 124.9 percent during the month from 126.5 percent in the previous month.

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

- a. Rice at 102.5 percent from 105.4 percent;
- b. Meat and other parts of slaughtered land animals at 154.1 percent from 154.8 percent;
- c. Fish and other seafood at 131.4 percent from 132.3 percent;
- d. Fruits and nuts at 148.4 percent from 150.4 percent;
- e. Vegetables, tubers, plantains, cooking bananas and pulses at 136.0 percent from 141.8 percent; and
- f. Ready-made food and other food products not elsewhere classified (n.e.c) at 135.5 percent from 135.7 percent.

In contrast, the following food items observed higher CPI levels:

- a. Flour, bread and other bakery products, pasta products, and other cereals at 120.6 percent from 120.4 percent;
- b. Milk, other dairy products and eggs at 125.6 percent from 125.4 percent; and
- c. Oils and fats at 127.7 percent from 127.3 percent.

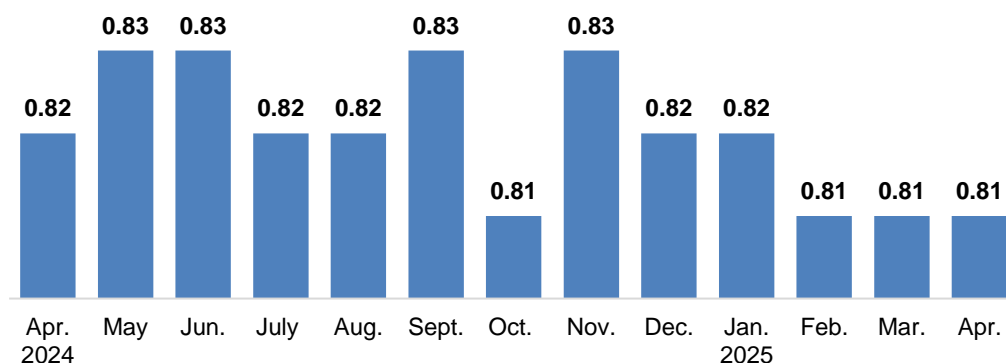
Meanwhile, the rest of the food items retained its CPI levels from the previous month.

The non-food category recorded lower CPI level at 120.5 percent in April 2025 from 120.8 percent in March 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 April 2025 or you will need Php 122.9 to buy the same goods and services worth Php 100.00 in 2018. (Table A and Figure 2)

Figure 2. Purchasing Power of Peso: Biliran,
April 2024 - April 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: March to April 2025 and April 2024 (2018=100)
2. Table 2. Consumer Price Index by Commodity Group, Biliran: March to April 2025 and April 2024 (2018=100)
3. Technical Notes

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

COMMODITY GROUP	April 2025	March 2025	April 2024
ALL ITEMS	1.1	2.3	4.4
I. FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	-0.7	0.5	6.9
* Food	-1.3	0.0	7.2
Cereals and Cereal Products	-11.6	-11.6	22.8
Cereals	-15.2	-15.0	28.5
Rice	-15.3	-15.1	28.5
Corn	-6.3	-6.3	28.5
Flour, Bread and Other Bakery Products, Pasta Products, and Other Cereals	2.7	2.9	4.1
Meat and Other Parts of Slaughtered Land Animals	10.9	13.4	-1.8
Fish and Other Seafood	0.3	2.9	-3.2
Milk, Other Dairy Products, and Eggs	4.5	4.7	3.3
Oils and Fats	4.3	4.0	5.0
Fruits and Nuts	4.0	8.0	2.7
Vegetables, Tubers, Cooking Bananas and Pulses	14.9	18.3	-3.9
Sugar, Confectionery and Desserts	-0.1	0.4	0.3
Ready-Made Food and Other Food Products N.E.C.	8.3	9.5	6.3
* Non-alcoholic Beverages	6.4	6.4	4.1
II. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	2.8	2.4	5.0
Alcoholic Beverages	1.1	1.0	2.0
Tobacco	4.4	3.8	8.1
NON-FOOD	2.7	4.1	2.0
III. CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	5.5	6.0	5.3
Clothing	5.7	6.1	5.3
Footwear	5.1	5.8	5.7
IV. HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	2.6	5.8	-2.0
Actual Rentals for Housing	1.3	1.3	0.0
Maintenance, Repair and Security of the Dwelling	2.9	2.9	3.9
Water Supply and Miscellaneous Services Relating to the Dwelling	0.0	0.0	0.0
Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	3.9	11.5	-5.0
V. FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE	6.0	6.2	4.0
Furniture and Furnishings, and Loose Carpets	2.7	3.6	3.2
Household Textiles	3.0	3.1	3.2
Household Appliances	4.1	4.7	4.9
Glassware, Tableware and Household Utensils	12.1	13.1	10.0
Tools and Equipment for House and Garden	3.2	4.0	4.5
Goods and Services for Routine Household Maintenance	6.8	6.9	3.9
VI. HEALTH	3.1	3.3	1.5
Medicines and Health Products	2.0	1.9	1.9
Outpatient Care Services	9.1	10.9	1.6
Inpatient Care Services	0.8	0.8	0.0



COMMODITY GROUP	April 2025	March 2025	April 2024
Other Health Services	1.4	1.4	0.0
VII. TRANSPORT	-0.8	0.5	0.9
Purchase of Vehicles	2.6	2.6	0.1
Operation of Personal Transport Equipment	-4.9	-0.9	3.8
Passenger Transport Services	-0.1	-0.2	-0.8
Transport Services of Goods	0.0	0.0	1.2
VIII. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION	2.8	2.5	1.0
Information and Communication Equipment	5.1	4.6	1.7
Information and Communication Services	0.2	0.2	0.2
IX. RECREATION, SPORT AND CULTURE	6.5	6.9	7.9
Recreational Durables	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Recreational Goods	3.6	3.4	6.7
Garden Products and Pets	4.6	5.3	10.7
Recreational Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cultural Goods	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cultural Services	-	-	-
Newspapers, Books and Stationery	11.4	12.2	13.0
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	2.5	2.7	8.3
Food and Beverage Serving Services	2.7	2.9	9.0
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	5.8	6.3	5.4
Personal Care	5.9	6.3	5.5
Other Personal Effects	5.6	7.0	5.3
Other Services	0.0	0.0	0.0

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: March to April 2025 and April 2024 (2018 = 100)

COMMODITY GROUP	April 2025	March 2025	April 2024
ALL ITEMS	122.9	123.7	121.6
I. FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	125.4	126.9	126.3
* Food	124.9	126.5	126.5
Cereals and Cereal Products	106.3	108.5	120.3
Cereals	102.7	105.5	121.1
Rice	102.5	105.4	121.0
Corn	124.4	124.4	132.7
Flour, Bread and Other Bakery Products, Pasta Products, and Other Cereals	120.6	120.4	117.5
Meat and Other Parts of Slaughtered Land Animals	154.1	154.8	139.0
Fish and Other Seafood	131.4	132.3	131.0
Milk, Other Dairy Products, and Eggs	125.6	125.4	120.2
Oils and Fats	127.7	127.3	122.4
Fruits and Nuts	148.4	150.4	142.7
Vegetables, Tubers, Cooking Bananas and Pulses	136.0	141.8	118.4
Sugar, Confectionery and Desserts	143.5	143.5	143.6
Ready-Made Food and Other Food Products N.E.C.	135.5	135.7	125.1
* Non-alcoholic Beverages	132.1	131.6	124.1
II. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	126.7	125.8	123.3
Alcoholic Beverages	120.5	120.4	119.2
Tobacco	133.1	131.4	127.5
NON-FOOD	120.5	120.8	117.3
III. CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	124.7	124.4	118.2
Clothing	128.2	127.8	121.3
Footwear	115.8	115.6	110.2
IV. HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	116.3	117.4	113.4
Actual Rentals for Housing	107.3	107.3	105.9
Maintenance, Repair and Security of the Dwelling	121.0	120.6	117.6
Water Supply and Miscellaneous Services Relating to the Dwelling	102.5	102.5	102.5
Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	127.4	130.3	122.6
V. FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE	122.8	122.7	115.9
Furniture and Furnishings, and Loose Carpets	116.8	116.8	113.7
Household Textiles	112.1	111.7	108.8
Household Appliances	120.7	120.7	116.0
Glassware, Tableware and Household Utensils	134.1	133.5	119.6
Tools and Equipment for House and Garden	115.4	114.8	111.8
Goods and Services for Routine Household Maintenance	124.4	124.2	116.5
VI. HEALTH	116.6	116.3	113.1
Medicines and Health Products	118.0	117.6	115.7
Outpatient Care Services	123.6	123.6	113.3
Inpatient Care Services	103.0	103.0	102.2



COMMODITY GROUP	April 2025	March 2025	April 2024
Other Health Services	105.9	105.9	104.4
VII. TRANSPORT	128.9	129.4	130.0
Purchase of Vehicles	100.3	100.3	97.8
Operation of Personal Transport Equipment	124.9	126.6	131.4
Passenger Transport Services	175.0	175.0	175.2
Transport Services of Goods	105.7	105.7	105.7
VIII. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION	107.3	107.0	104.4
Information and Communication Equipment	112.7	112.1	107.2
Information and Communication Services	101.8	101.8	101.6
IX. RECREATION, SPORT AND CULTURE	121.9	121.2	114.5
Recreational Durables	100.0	100.0	100.0
Other Recreational Goods	118.7	118.1	114.6
Garden Products and Pets	148.9	148.9	142.3
Recreational Services	92.4	92.4	92.4
Cultural Goods	102.6	102.6	102.6
Cultural Services	-	-	-
Newspapers, Books and Stationery	139.7	138.2	125.4
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	124.8	124.7	121.8
Food and Beverage Serving Services	127.3	127.2	124.0
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	117.0	116.5	110.6
Personal Care	117.3	116.8	110.8
Other Personal Effects	116.8	116.5	110.6
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.

