

SPECIAL RELEASE

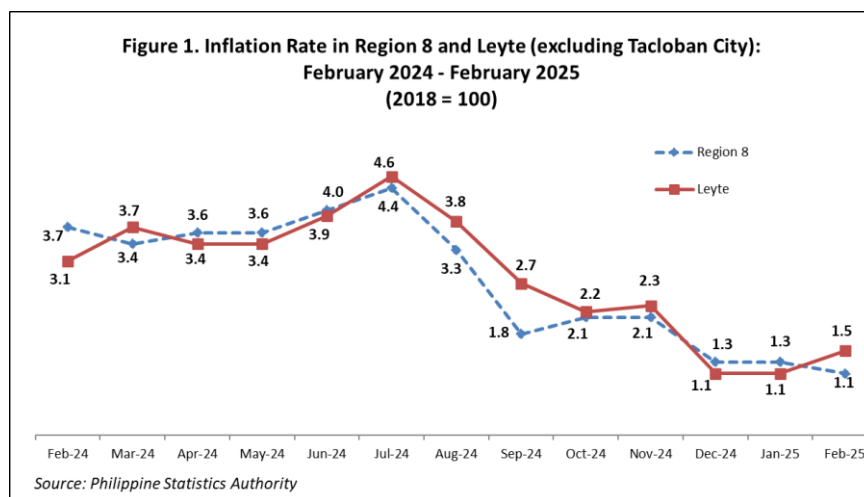
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FEBRUARY 2025 PRICE SITUATION IN LEYTE (excluding Tacloban City) (2018=100)

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Leyte's inflation rate climbs to 1.5 percent in February 2025

Leyte's inflation rate rose to 1.5 percent in February 2025 from 1.1 percent in January 2025. In comparison, the rate was higher at 3.1 percent in February 2024. Meanwhile, the region's inflation rate declined to 1.1 percent in February 2025 from 1.3 percent in January 2025. Among the provinces and the highly urbanized city (HUC) in



the region, Eastern Samar, Northern Samar, Western Samar, and Southern Leyte saw a decline in their inflation rates in February 2025. Conversely, Leyte, Biliran, and Tacloban City experienced an increase during the same period.

Main Drivers and Top Three Commodity Groups Contributing to the Upward Trend of Leyte's Inflation

The following commodity groups emerged as the main drivers to the upward trend in the February 2025 inflation rate of Leyte. They also emerged as the major contributors to the overall trend of Leyte during the month-in-review:

- Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels, which accounted for an 80.3 percent share, recorded a 5.0 percent inflation rate, up from 2.9 percent in the previous month. This increase was driven by the faster increase in electricity prices and the slower decline in prices of security equipment and materials for the maintenance and repair of the dwelling and liquid fuels;
- Food and non-alcoholic beverages, which accounted for a 19.1 percent share, recorded a 0.9 percent inflation rate, up from 0.7 percent in the previous month. This increase was attributed to the faster rate of increase in the prices of meat and other parts of slaughtered land animals, fish and other seafood, milk, other dairy products and eggs, fruits and nuts, sugar, confectionery and desserts, ready-made food and other food products, fruit and vegetable juices, and water. and the increase in prices of oils and fats and vegetables, tubers, plantains, cooking bananas and pulses; and
- Clothing and footwear, which accounted for a 0.6 percent share, recorded a deflation of -0.3 percent, up from a deflation -0.4 percent in the previous month. This increase



was caused by the increase in the prices of shoes and other footwear.

In contrast, the following major commodity groups recorded a decrease in their respective inflation rates in February 2025 compared to the previous month:

- a. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco at 1.7 percent, down from 2.1 percent. This decrease was driven by the slower rate of increase in the prices of tobacco;
- b. Recreation, sport and culture at 1.0 percent from 1.1 percent, caused by slower rate of increase in the prices of stationery and drawing materials and the decrease in prices of musical instruments; and
- c. Personal care, and miscellaneous goods and services at 0.8 percent, down from 1.2 percent. This decrease was attributed to the slower rate of increase in the prices of other appliances, articles and products for personal care.

In addition, transport recorded a deflation of -1.0 percent in February 2025, down from -0.1 percent in the previous month. This was driven by the decrease in prices of fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment.

Meanwhile, the six (6) other major commodity groups maintained their inflation rates from their previous month's rate:

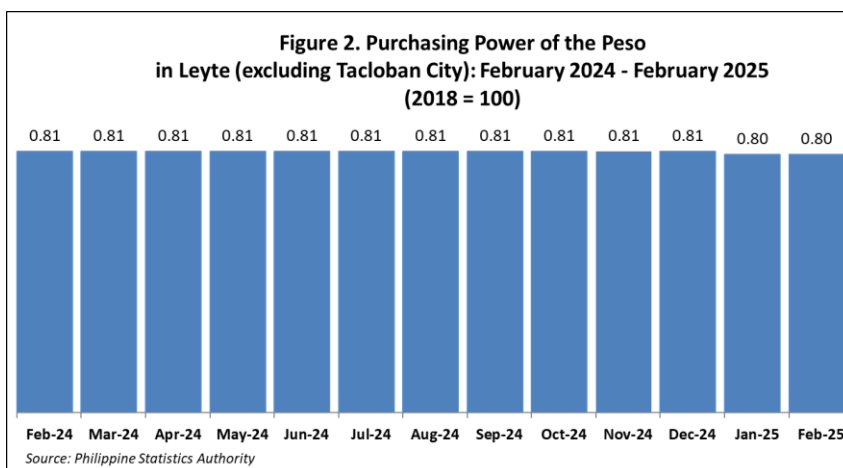
- a. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance at 0.9 percent;
- b. Health at 0.7 percent;
- c. Information and Communication at 0.1 percent;
- d. Education services at 12.6 percent;
- e. Restaurants and accommodation services at 0.1 percent; and
- f. Financial services at zero percent.

The inflation rate is the general rise in prices over a period. It indicates how fast or how slow price changes over two-time periods. Contrary to common knowledge, low inflation does not necessarily connote that prices are falling instead; it means that prices continue to increase at a slower rate. It is a derived indicator of the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

The CPI is a measure of change in the average retail prices of goods and services commonly purchased by a particular group of people in a specific area. The overall CPI in Leyte for February 2025 was 125.6. This implies that the average retail price of goods and services in Leyte is 25.6 percent higher than the average retail prices in 2018 (base year).

Purchasing Power of Peso (PPP) retained at 80 centavos in February 2025

The Purchasing Power of Peso (PPP) in Leyte remained at 80 centavos in February 2025. Likewise, the PPP in the region remained at 79 centavos in February 2025. The 80 centavos purchasing power of peso in Leyte indicates that the same basket of goods and services worth 80 pesos in 2018 (base year) is worth 100 pesos during the reference period.



**Table 2. Inflation Rate by Commodity Group in Leyte (Excluding Tacloban City): February 2024 - February 2025
(2018 = 100)**

COMMODITY GROUP	2024												2025	
	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	
ALL ITEMS	3.1	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.9	4.6	3.8	2.7	2.2	2.3	1.1	1.1	1.5	
I. FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	5.4	6.5	6.0	5.6	6.3	6.8	6.7	3.8	3.6	3.2	1.1	0.7	0.9	
* Food	5.5	6.7	6.2	5.8	6.5	7.0	6.9	3.9	3.7	3.3	1.0	0.6	0.8	
Cereals and Cereal Products	18.6	18.6	18.8	17.3	16.6	15.3	15.4	12.2	11.8	9.2	1.6	-2.7	-4.0	
Cereals	22.6	22.4	22.8	21.1	20.4	18.9	19.2	14.8	14.3	10.9	1.7	-3.8	-5.3	
Rice	23.6	23.4	23.8	22.0	21.2	19.7	20.0	15.2	14.8	11.3	1.5	-4.0	-5.7	
Corn	5.3	5.5	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.5	6.5	6.5	5.1	4.2	1.0	1.6	
Flour, Bread and Other Bakery Products, Pasta Products, and Other Cereals	3.4	4.3	3.9	2.8	2.6	1.9	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.1	1.3	2.0	1.9	
Meat and Other Parts of Slaughtered Land Animals	-3.6	-3.6	-3.1	-2.8	0.3	0.0	0.9	1.3	1.8	2.1	2.3	1.1	4.1	
Fish and Other Seafood	-3.6	0.5	-3.8	-7.3	-8.4	-5.1	-3.2	-7.4	-9.5	-6.7	-2.1	6.1	6.9	
Milk, Other Dairy Products, and Eggs	6.1	6.1	6.5	5.2	4.3	5.0	3.7	1.3	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.8	2.2	
Oils and Fats	-1.3	-1.5	-1.4	-1.4	-1.1	-1.1	-1.1	-1.1	-1.1	-1.1	-0.5	-0.2	0.0	
Fruits and Nuts	22.9	16.5	13.9	16.9	23.2	22.5	20.7	13.5	15.7	15.4	4.8	3.7	5.0	
Vegetables, Tubers, Cooking Bananas and Pulses	-15.3	-10.5	-9.9	-3.8	1.8	5.1	0.7	-7.2	-5.0	-4.5	-3.5	-0.3	0.4	
Sugar, Confectionery and Desserts	1.8	0.9	1.1	2.9	3.0	1.7	1.1	1.3	1.4	0.9	2.8	0.3	1.3	
Ready-Made Food and Other Food Products N.E.C.	3.3	3.3	3.3	5.4	5.8	7.0	6.7	5.5	4.6	4.5	4.6	5.2	5.5	
* Non-alcoholic Beverages	3.9	3.2	3.6	3.2	3.5	3.4	2.9	2.4	2.1	1.8	2.1	1.8	1.7	
II. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	6.6	6.2	5.6	2.4	1.6	1.3	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4	2.2	2.1	1.7	
Alcoholic Beverages	0.5	1.2	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.4	-0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	
Tobacco	13.2	11.4	10.9	4.4	3.0	2.5	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	4.1	4.0	3.1	
Other Vegetable-Based Tobacco Products	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
NON-FOOD	0.5	0.9	0.7	1.2	1.5	2.5	1.0	1.5	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.6	2.1	
III. CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	-0.3	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.5	-0.5	-0.6	-0.5	-0.6	-0.7	-0.4	-0.3	
Clothing	-0.3	-0.8	-0.8	-0.8	-0.8	-0.8	-0.6	-0.6	-0.8	-0.7	-0.7	-0.9	-0.5	
Footwear	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	0.1	
IV. HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	-1.8	-1.3	-1.8	-0.5	1.1	2.3	0.7	4.1	2.5	3.0	1.6	2.9	5.0	
Actual Rentals for Housing	1.7	1.7	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	-0.5	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	
Maintenance, Repair and Security of the Dwelling	0.0	0.0	0.8	-0.1	-1.1	-1.1	-0.9	-0.8	-0.7	-0.7	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	
Water Supply and Miscellaneous Services Relating to the Dwelling	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	-8.5	-7.4	-7.8	-4.1	0.5	4.8	3.3	7.3	2.7	4.3	-0.3	3.6	10.0	
V. FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE	4.6	3.7	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.0	3.1	2.4	1.6	0.9	0.9	
Furniture and Furnishings, and Loose Carpets	0.2	-0.7	-0.8	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	
Household Textiles	-0.4	-0.5	-0.6	-0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	-0.1	-0.2	
Household Appliances	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7	-0.8	-0.4	0.0	0.0	
Glassware, Tableware and Household Utensils	0.2	0.2	0.3	1.0	1.7	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.1	
Tools and Equipment for House and Garden	0.3	0.3	2.3	5.2	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.3	
Goods and Services for Routine Household Maintenance	6.0	5.1	5.5	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.2	4.2	3.3	2.0	1.1	1.1	
VI. HEALTH	2.7	0.9	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.3	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	
Medicines and Health Products	3.6	1.1	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	
Outpatient Care Services	1.3	0.0	1.8	2.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	
Inpatient Care Services	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	
Other Health Services	2.8	0.7	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	
VII. TRANSPORT	0.6	2.2	2.2	3.1	1.6	3.3	-1.0	-3.8	-3.5	-2.2	-0.2	-0.1	-1.0	
Purchase of Vehicles	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.4	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Operation of Personal Transport Equipment	-2.2	2.5	2.3	4.8	0.2	5.0	-6.6	-14.2	-13.2	-8.2	-0.5	0.0	-2.7	
Passenger Transport Services	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.8	2.2	2.0	1.6	1.7	1.8	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	
Transport Services of Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0	
VIII. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	
Information and Communication Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	
Information and Communication Services	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	
IX. RECREATION, SPORT AND CULTURE	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.5	1.1	1.0	
Recreational Durables	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Other Recreational Goods	1.0	2.6	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.3	0.8	0.8	
Garden Products and Pets	4.1	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	1.3	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	
Recreational Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Cultural Goods	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.4	
Cultural Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Newspapers, Books and Stationery	2.7	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.7	4.4	4.1	3.7	2.7	3.2	2.9	2.8	
Package Holidays	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
X. EDUCATION	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.6	12.6	12.6	12.6	12.6	12.6	12.6	12.6	
Pre-primary and Primary Education	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	34.7	34.7	34.7	34.7	34.7	34.7	34.7	
Secondary Education	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.1	14.1	14.1	14.1	14.1	14.1	14.1	
Tertiary Education	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	
Education Not Definable by Level	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
XI. RESTAURANTS AND ACCOMMODATION SERVICES	4.1	4.1	4.1	2.8	2.3	2.3	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	
Food and Beverage Serving Services	4.3	4.3	4.4	3.0	2.5	2.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Accommodation Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	
XII. FINANCIAL SERVICES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Financial Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
XIII. PERSONAL CARE, AND MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	2.8	2.5	2.3	2.2	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.1	1.2	0.8	
Personal Care	3.0	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.3	1.3	1.0	
Other Personal Effects	0.8	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	-0.3	-0.5	-0.3	
Other Services	2.4	4.8	8.1	8.5	9.3	9.3	9.3	9.3	9.3	9.3	6.8	6.8	6.8	

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority



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TECHNICAL NOTES

Rebasing of 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 base year had to be done periodically.

BASE PERIOD – refers to the reference period of the index number. It is a period at which the index is set to 100. Current base period is 2018.

COMPUTING THE CPI - The formula used in computing the CPI is the weighted arithmetic mean of price relatives, a variant of the Laspeyres formula with fixed base year period weights.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX – is a measure of change in the average retail prices of goods and services commonly purchased by a particular group of people in a particular area.

INFLATION RATE – refers to the annual rate of change or year-on-year change in CPI.

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.

MONITORING OF PRICES - is to establish baseline information for prices of the items in the base year and monitoring of the prices of the items on a regular basis. Except for Food, Beverage and Tobacco which is monitored on a weekly basis in NCR, price collection is done twice a month. First collection phase is done during the first five days of the month while the second phase is on the 15th to 17th day of the month.

PURCHASING POWER PESO – it is a measure of how much the peso in the base period is worth in another period. It gives an indication of the real value in a given period relative to the peso value in the base period.

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 and prices of commodities that are on sale as in summer sales, anniversary sales, Christmas sales, etc.

WEIGHTS - The weights for the 2018-based CPI were derived from the expenditure data of the 2018 Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES). The weight for each item of expenditure is a proportion of that expenditure item to the total national expenditure. The total (all items) national expenditure weights is equal to 100.


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