PRESS RELEASE
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இலங்கை மத்திய வங்கி
CENTRAL BANK OF SRI LANKA

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CCPI-based headline inflation remained unchanged in September 2026

The Colombo Consumer Price Index[1] (CCPI, 2021=100) based headline inflation (year-on-year, Y-o-Y) remained unchanged at 8.0% in September 2026 compared to August 2026.

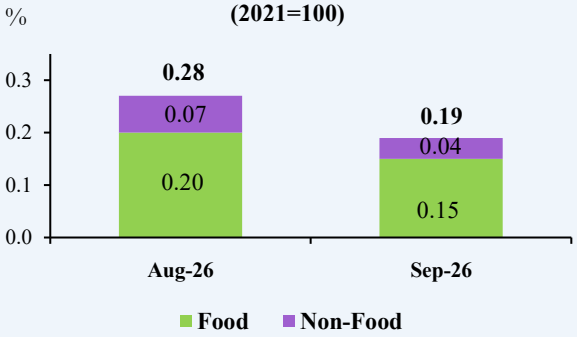
Meanwhile, food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 8.7% in September 2026 from 8.5% in August 2026, while non-food inflation (Y-o-Y) remained unchanged at 7.7% in September 2026 compared to August 2026.

On a month-on-month basis, the CCPI increased by 0.19% in September 2026. This marginal increase was mainly driven by the food category, which contributed 0.15 percentage point, largely owing to the increase in prices of Fresh Fruits and Big Onion, while the non-food category contributed 0.04 percentage point largely owing to the increase in prices of Education sub-category compared to August 2026.

Meanwhile, core inflation (Y-o-Y) accelerated to 5.4% in September 2026 from 5.1% in August 2026.

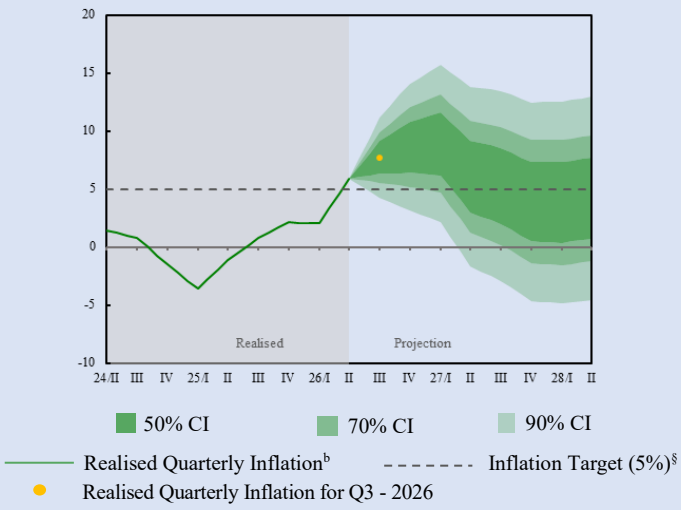
Inflation CCPI (2021=100)	August 2026	September 2026
Index Value	208.8	209.1
Monthly Change[2] (%)	0.28	0.19
Y-o-Y Inflation (%)	8.0	8.0

Contribution to Monthly % Change in CCPI (2021=100)



Realised quarterly average inflation for Q3-2026 remained in line with the Central Bank's recent projections. According to the inflation projections made at the monetary policy round in September 2026, headline inflation is projected to remain in high single digits through Q1-2027, before easing towards the 5% target.

Baseline Quarterly Headline Inflation Forecast[a] (CCPI[b], y-o-y)
Based on the projections during the September 2026 monetary policy round



a/ ***Note: A forecast is neither a promise nor a commitment.*** The inflation fan chart depicted here illustrates the uncertainty surrounding the baseline projections using confidence bands of gradually fading colours. The projections displayed in the fan chart reflect the available data, assumptions and judgements made at the forecast round in September 2026. Any significant changes in underlying conditions could lead to notable deviations from these projections.

b/ Realised data in the fan chart are based on the CCPI (2021=100, seasonally adjusted). Projections are based on all available data.

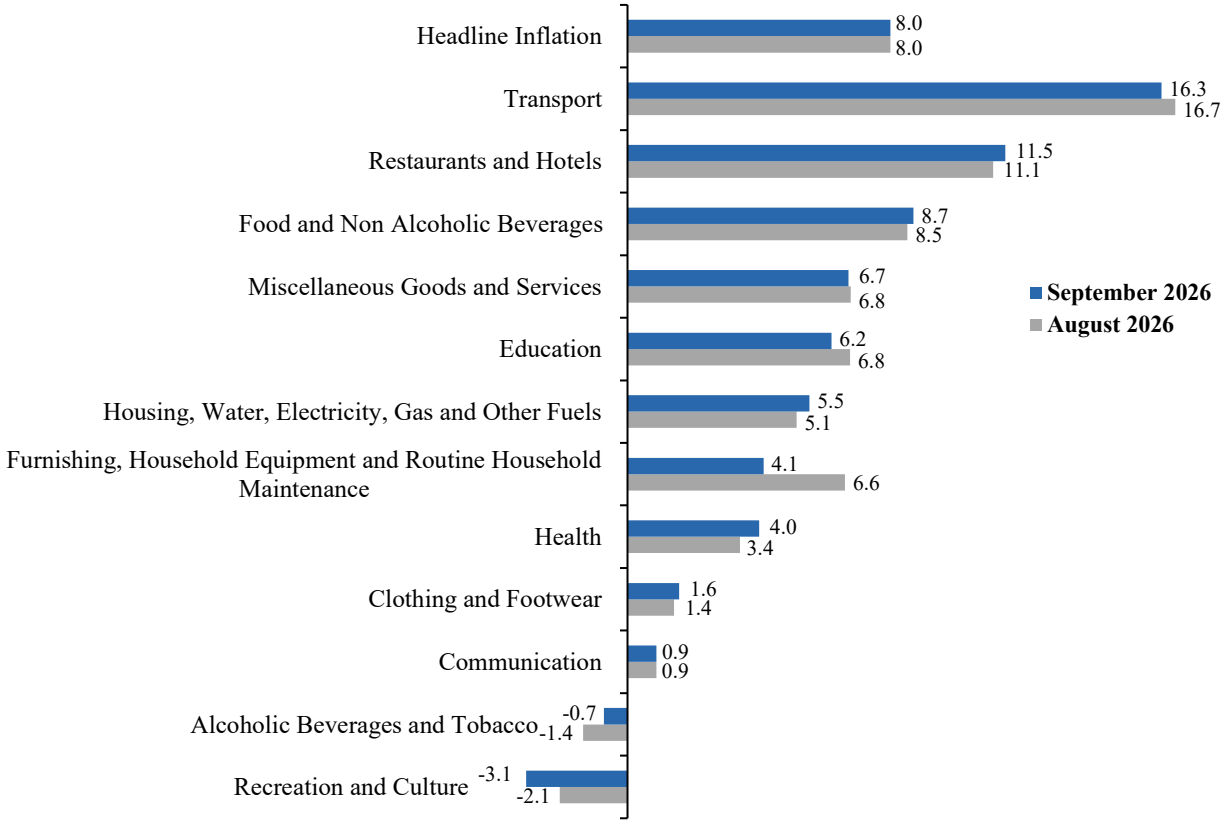
Source: *Central Bank Staff Projections*

§ *The inflation target (5%) was agreed under the Monetary Policy Framework Agreement (MPFA) signed between the Central Bank and the Minister of Finance in October 2023.*

[1] The Colombo Consumer Price Index (CCPI, 2021=100) is compiled by the Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) to indicate average changes in the prices of goods and services purchased by households in urban areas of the Colombo district.

[2] As per DCS, monthly percentage change of the index is calculated based on expenditure values. Therefore, the percentages of items may not tally with the overall percentage due to rounding.

CCPI (2021=100) based Headline Inflation by Subcategory (Y-o-Y % Change)



Movement of the CCPI (2021=100)

Period		Index Number		Monthly % Change		Y-o-Y % Change		Annual Average % Change	
Year	Month	CCPI	CCPI (Core)	CCPI	CCPI (Core)	CCPI	CCPI (Core)	CCPI	CCPI (Core)
2025	September	193.7	181.2	0.2	0.2	1.5	2.0	-1.4	1.7
	October	193.8	181.4	0.1	0.1	2.1	2.2	-1.2	1.6
	November	193.4	181.3	-0.2	-0.1	2.1	2.4	-0.8	1.6
	December	195.8	181.8	1.2	0.3	2.1	2.7	-0.5	1.6
2026	January	197.0	182.5	0.6	0.4	2.3	2.3	0.0	1.7
	February	195.3	182.3	-0.9	-0.1	1.6	2.1	0.5	1.8
	March	195.8	183.0	0.3	0.4	2.2	2.5	0.9	2.0
	April	201.6	185.6	3.0	1.4	5.4	3.8	1.6	2.2
	May	203.4	186.1	0.9	0.3	5.5	3.9	2.1	2.4
	June	207.7	187.3	2.1	0.6	6.8	4.0	2.7	2.6
	July	208.2	188.8	0.2	0.8	7.3	4.4	3.3	2.9
	August	208.8	190.1	0.3	0.7	8.0	5.1	3.9	3.1
	September	209.1	190.9	0.1	0.4	8.0	5.4	4.5	3.4

Source: Department of Census and Statistics(DCS)

Note: As per DCS, Y-o-Y inflation and monthly change are calculated using the rounded off index numbers.