

## National Metadata Structure (NMDS) for Consumer Price Index (CPI)

<b>1</b>	<b>Contact</b>	
1.1	Contact Organisation	National Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, Khurshid Lal Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi-110001
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<b>2</b>	<b>Data</b>	
	<b>Description and Presentation</b>	
2.1	Data description	1.Consumer Price Index (Rural, Urban & Combined)  2.Consumer Food Price Index (Rural, Urban & Combined)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The weighing diagrams for the new CPI series have been derived on the basis of average monthly consumer expenditure of an urban/rural household obtained from the Modified Mixed Reference Period (MMRP) Data of NSS 68th round Consumer Expenditure Survey (2011-12).</li> <li>Various items are classified into 6</li> </ul>

## 2.2 System of Classification

consumption groups and subgroups broadly considering Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose (COICOP), the standard international classification as well as present classification of items adopted in the existing CPI numbers compiled at national level. The grouping is as follows:

### Groups and Sub groups for the revised CPI(Rural/Urban)

Group code	Sub Group Code	Description
1		Food and beverages
	1.1.01	Cereals and products
	1.1.02	Meat and fish
	1.1.03	Egg
	1.1.04	Milk and products
	1.1.05	Oils and fats
	1.1.06	Fruits
	1.1.07	Vegetables
	1.1.08	Pulses and products
	1.1.09	Sugar and confectionery
	1.1.10	Spices
	1.1.11	Non-alcoholic beverages
	1.1.12	Prepared meals, snacks, sweets etc.
2		Pan, tobacco and intoxicants
3		Clothing and footwear
	3.1.01	Clothing
	3.1.02	Footwear
4		Housing
5		Fuel and light
6		Miscellaneous
	6.1.01	Household goods and services

		<table><tr><td>6.1.02</td><td>Health</td></tr><tr><td>6.1.03</td><td>Transport and communication</td></tr><tr><td>6.1.04</td><td>Recreation and amusement</td></tr><tr><td>6.1.05</td><td>Education</td></tr><tr><td>6.1.06</td><td>Personal care and effects</td></tr></table>	6.1.02	Health	6.1.03	Transport and communication	6.1.04	Recreation and amusement	6.1.05	Education	6.1.06	Personal care and effects
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6.1.04	Recreation and amusement											
6.1.05	Education											
6.1.06	Personal care and effects											
2.3	International/ National Standards Classification etc.	Various items are classified into 6 consumption groups and subgroups broadly considering Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose (COICOP), the standard international classification as well as present classification of items adopted in the existing CPI.										
2.4	Sector coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Population Coverage:</b> The index is compiled for all 36 States and Union Territories of India and covers the entire population of the country.</li><li>• <b>Item Coverage:</b> The index covers an average of approximately 299 items although the number varies from market to market in case of CPI (Urban) and village to village in case of CPI(Rural). The prices are collected every month as per a weekly schedule from 1114 markets in 310 towns and 1181 villages covering all districts of the country.</li></ul>										
		<p>Consumer Price Index (CPI) is designed to measure the changes over time in general level of retail prices of selected goods and services that households purchase for the purpose of consumption. Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) are being compiled as weighted average of the indices of the ten subgroups, out of 12 sub-groups contained in 'Food and Beverages' group, excluding 'Nonalcoholic beverages' and 'Prepared meals, snacks, sweets etc.'</p> <p>The CPI and CFPI is compiled at the All India level for the Rural, Urban &amp;</p>										

2.5	Concepts and definitions	<p>Combined Sector. The CPI is also compiled for all 36 States and Union Territories of India. For more details regarding the statistical concepts and definitions about compilation of CPI, one may access “Report of the Group of Technical Advisory Committee on Statistics of Prices and Cost of Living” and “Consumer Price Index Change in Revised Series” document on the warehouse of Consumer Price Indices. The steps to access the warehouse is mentioned below: -</p> <p>Open the web page of the Ministry: <a href="https://www.mospi.gov.in/">https://www.mospi.gov.in/</a>. On the Home page there is a tab ‘Consumer Price Index’. Click on that tab. It will pop up a message “You are about to proceed to an external website. Click OK to proceed.” Click on ‘Yes’. It would take you to a page titled ‘<i>Welcome to Consumer Price Indices Warehouse</i>’.</p>
2.6	Unit of compilation	<p>The prices of the items in the CPI basket are collected every month as per a weekly schedule from selected 1114 urban markets in 310 towns and 1181 villages covering all districts of the country.</p>
2.7	Population coverage	<p>The prices of the items in the CPI basket are collected every month as per a weekly schedule from selected 1114 urban markets in 310 towns and 1181 villages covering all districts of the country. It covers the entire population of the country.</p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing of price observation: The prices are collected every month as per a weekly schedule from 1114 markets in 310 towns and 1181 villages across the country. The retail prices for different commodity groups are collected on fixed days of the week as far as possible, such that comparisons between two markets from the same outlet are</li> </ul>

		<p>not affected by differences in the timings of data collection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A representative sample of rented dwellings, occupied by the urban population has been selected for canvassing House Rent Schedule. Rent calculation is carried out for the same set of rented dwellings at six-monthly intervals i.e. each rented house is selected once in six months. The selected sample of rented houses is divided into six sub samples. Rent from sub samples are collected on rolling survey basis; by visiting one sub sample in one month.</li> </ul>
2.8	Reference Period	
2.9	Duration and period of enumeration	Monthly
2.10	Sample size/Dataset Size	The prices of the items in the CPI basket are collected every month as per a weekly schedule from selected 1114 urban markets in 310 towns and 1181 villages covering all districts of the country.
2.11	Data Confidentiality	The unit level price data of the basket of commodities are not placed in public domain. Further CPI is published for item/sub-group/group level and are available on the website of Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation.
<b>3 Institutional Mandate</b>		
3.1	Legal acts and other agreements	In accordance with the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, as amended from time to time. It is the responsibility of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation to compile and release the data on the broad-based CPI (Rural, Urban, Combined).

3.2	Data sharing/Data Dissemination	The unit level price data of the basket of commodities are not shared with any stakeholder. However, if at all the data needs to be shared, the identity particulars of the market and villages are suitably anonymized to ensure Data Confidentiality.
3.3	Release calendar	An advance release calendar which gives one quarter ahead notice of the precise release date is disseminated on the internet on the IMF's Data Dissemination Bulletin Board (DSBB). Provisional monthly CPI (Rural, Urban, Combined) numbers are released on 12th day of the following month (next working day if it is a holiday). Final indices for the previous month are also released along with the provisional indices of the current month.
3.4	Frequency of dissemination	Monthly
		<p>The broad-based CPI (Rural, Urban, Combined) data are released simultaneously to all interested parties by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation by issuing the Press Note on Consumer Price Index. The data are then subsequently posted on the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation following website: <a href="https://mospi.gov.in/web/mospi/press-release">https://mospi.gov.in/web/mospi/press-release</a>.</p> <p>Following files are uploaded every month on the official website of Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Press Release on New CPI for the current month (pdf form)</li> <li>2. Annexure of the press release for the current month (excel format). It is available under "Statistics" tab inside the option "Download Tables/Data". There is a folder named "CPI" under this option which contains the abovementioned file.</li> </ol>

3.5	Data access	<p>3. State wise group indices for the current month (pdf format). It is available under “Statistics” tab inside the option “Download Tables/Data”. There is a folder named “CPI” under this option which contains the abovementioned file.</p> <p>Further, elementary and higher level indices and inflation rates are also being uploaded on the warehouse of Consumer Price Indices. These can be found under various tabs viz “Time Series”, “All India Item Index”, “Annual Inflation Rates”, “All India Item Inflation Rates” etc on the warehouse page. All the indices and inflation numbers available on the warehouse of Consumer Price Indices are downloadable in excel format.</p> <p>The steps to access the warehouse is mentioned below: -  Open the web page of the Ministry: <a href="http://www.mospi.gov.in">www.mospi.gov.in</a>  a. On the Home page there is a tab ‘Consumer Price Index’. Click on that tab. It will pop up a message “You are about to proceed to an external website. Click OK to proceed.” Click on ‘Yes’. It would take you to a page titled ‘Welcome to Consumer Price Indices Warehouse’.</p>
4	<b>Quality Management</b>	
4.1	Documentation methodology	<p>Documentation on the methodology and the data sources used in the compilation of the Consumer Price Indices for Rural, Urban &amp; Combined sector is available in the publication “Report of the Group of TAC on SPCL on Base Revision of CPI” and “CPI Changes in the Revised Series (2012=100)” on the warehouse of Consumer Price Indices.</p> <p>The steps to access the warehouse is mentioned below: -  a. Open the web page of the Ministry: <a href="https://www.mospi.gov.in/">https://www.mospi.gov.in/</a>  b. On the Home page there is a tab ‘Consumer Price Index’. Click on that tab.</p>

		<p>It will pop up a message “You are about to proceed to an external website. Click OK to proceed.” Click on ‘Yes’. It would take you to a page titled ‘Welcome to Consumer Price Indices Warehouse’.</p>
4.2	Quality documentation	<p>CPI data is validated as per the guidance given in the CPI Manual and Practical Guide to Producing Consumer Price Indices (PGPCPI). These manuals are compiled by IMF and other multilateral agencies.</p>
4.3	Quality assurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Officers and staff are carefully instructed to comply strictly with all rules regarding integrity and confidentiality to prevent any influence from other parties. Consistency in concepts as well as in published data are also given high priority. Staff are, therefore, trained and instructed to follow rules and procedures in the compilation of the index to ensure the quality.</li> <li>• Measures are in place to monitor the quality of the various statistical stages. Through the regional offices and the price supervisors, efforts are continuously made to ensure that the guidelines for price collections are followed. The processing of data is carefully done each month according to a fixed schedule with checking and validation of data, both manually and automatically. Elementary and higher level indices are thoroughly checked across items, subgroups, groups and States. Before publishing, the final index figures are thoroughly checked to avoid mistakes/errors/discrepancies. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Statistics on Prices and Cost of Living (SPCL) provides guidance and recommendations on</li> </ul>



		the quality of the index series and on strategies for improving data production.
<b>5</b>	<b>Accuracy and Reliability</b>	
5.1	Sampling error	CPI for India is designed by following standard international practices so as to minimize the sampling error keeping in view of maximizing sampling efficiency and reduce bias as much as possible.
5.2	Measures of reliability	
<b>6</b>	<b>Timeliness</b>	
6.1	Timeliness	CPI for the reference month is released with a lag of 12 days for the current month. The lag happens as the price collection of the commodities is done over the entire month in identified urban and rural markets and is supplied to this division for further scrutiny and compilation of indices.
<b>7</b>	<b>Coherence and Comparability</b>	
7.1	Comparability – over time	The back series arrived applying linking factor to base 2010=100 series on the basis of base 2012=100 is available in the warehouse of Consumer Price Indices.
7.2	Coherence	CPI designed by following standard international practices and is coherent.
<b>8</b>	<b>Data Processing</b>	
8.1	Source data type	The Consumer Price Index (Rural, Urban, Combined), 2012=100, is a Laspeyres index covering the entire population, Rural and Urban throughout the country. The previous base for index was 2010=100. The index covers an average of approximately 299 items, although the number of items of goods and services varies from market to market in case of CPI (Urban) and village to village in case of CPI(Rural). The prices are collected every month as per a weekly schedule

		from 1114 markets in 310 towns and 1181 villages across the country. The weighing diagrams for the new CPI series have been derived on the basis of average monthly consumer expenditure of per household of an urban/rural household obtained from the NSS 68 <sup>th</sup> round Consumer Expenditure Survey data (2011-12).
8.2	Frequency of data collection	The prices are collected every month as per a weekly schedule.
8.3	Mode and method of data collection method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The prices are collected every month as per a weekly schedule from 1114 markets in 310 towns and 1181 villages across the country. The retail prices for different commodity groups are collected on fixed days of the week as far as possible, such that comparisons between two markets from the same outlet are not affected by differences in the timings of data collection.</li> <li>• A representative sample of rented dwellings occupied by the urban population has been selected for canvassing House Rent Schedule. Rent calculation is carried out for the same set of rented dwellings at six-monthly intervals i.e. each rented house is selected once in six months. The selected sample of rented house is divided into six sub samples. Rent from sub samples are collected on rolling survey basis; by visiting one sub sample in one month.</li> </ul>
		Price data are routinely assessed for errors by price collectors and by the Department as part of the monthly production of the CPIs. Data are carefully examined and checked for outliers by comparing data both over time and across product groups at the same point in time. Problems with non-response are minimized by training price collectors and

8.4	Data validation	<p>selecting “reserve” outlets. Consumer Expenditure Surveys, which is the data source for the weights is carried out by the NSO.</p> <p>The NSO’s instructions to field staff describe in detail definitions, classifications, and rules to prevent as far as possible mistakes and errors. Unusual movements in prices for particular States, items or price collectors are investigated. In cases where individual observations need to be checked, the central office contacts the regional/field offices officers or supervisor and asks for verification. Statistical discrepancies between the indices of different States or for different product groups are investigated and measures are taken to remove or explain them.</p>
		<p>Compilation of CPI numbers for items other than house rent consists of two stages i.e.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. calculation of price indices for elementary aggregates (item level indices) and</li> <li>ii. The aggregation of these elementary price indices to higher level indices using the weights associated with each level. Laspeyre’s formula is used for aggregation of indices. Specifications of items have been selected on the basis of popularity in the respective areas. These specifications are different in terms of units, quantity, quality etc. for different price schedules. Prices relative of each product specification (current month price/base year average price) is worked out. Geometric mean of these price relatives under the respective item multiplied with 100 gives the index for that item. In case of seasonal items of vegetables and fruits, whenever prices of these items are not reported in a particular month, weights of such items are distributed on a pro-rata basis to the items in the respective section (root vegetables, leafy vegetables, other</li> </ol>

	8.5 Data compilation	<p>vegetables and fresh fruits).</p> <p>House rent index is compiled by chain base method. Two categories of dwellings (viz. rented dwellings and owner occupied dwellings) are considered in the compilation of the house rent index. The rent equivalent approach is adopted in respect of owner occupied dwellings. For each State/UT, previous five months and current month data are used to compile rent relatives for the current month. Rent relative is calculated as current month rent/rent six months ago and then geometric mean of rent relative is worked out by classifying the dwellings by number of living rooms (1 room, 2 rooms, 3 rooms and 4 or more rooms). Weighted geometric mean of these average rent relatives is taken to get a combined rent relative using the estimated proportions of dwelling under each group, obtained from the NSS 69th round survey (July 2012-December 2012) on Housing Conditions. House rent index is obtained by multiplying the combined rent relative with the corresponding rent index six months ago. For PDS items, price relatives are worked out separately for Above Poverty Line (APL) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) categories of households. These price relatives are combined with the respective share of expenditure as obtained from the Consumer Expenditure Survey (2011-12).</p> <p>All India indices at item, sub group and group level are compiled by taking the respective expenditure of the State/UT (average household expenditure X total estimated households) as weights.</p>
	8.6 Data identifier(s)	State code, town code, village code and item code are identifiers.
	<b>9 Metadata Update</b>	

9.1	Metadata last posted	February 15, 2025 (Date subject to change based on release).
9.2	Metadata last update	February 15, 2025