

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MALDIVES

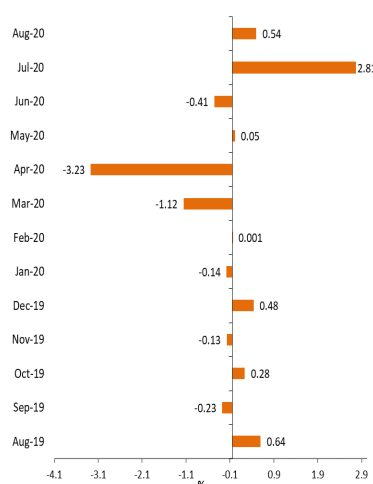
AUG 2020

Base Period = August 2019

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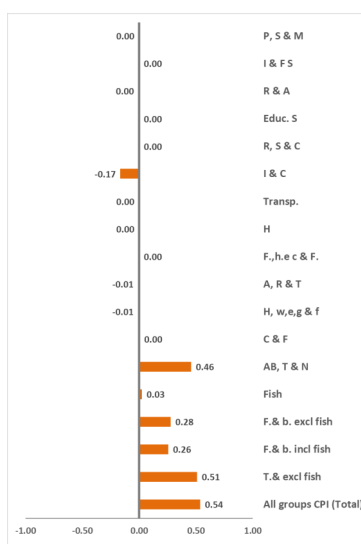
All groups CPI Monthly change

(Aug 2019 to Aug 2020)



Contribution to monthly change

(July 2020 to Aug 2020)



INQUIRIES

For further information about CPI and related statistics, please contact the National Bureau of Statistics at 3008433 or email:

info@stats.gov.mv

KEY FIGURES

Inflation rates : Republic

All groups CPI (Total)

	July 2020 to August 2020 % change	August 2019 to August 2020 % change
Food and non-alcoholic beverages incl fish	1.16	2.39
Tobacco and Aracanuts	24.54	29.47
Clothing & footwear	0.07	-2.16
Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels	-0.04	-3.45
Furnishing, household equip., Carpets & Other Floor cc	0.01	-0.52
Health	0.00	0.17
Transport	-0.01	-2.66
Information & Communication	-1.81	-10.98
Recreation, Sports & culture	0.00	0.29
Education Services	0.00	0.04
Restaurants and Accomodation services	-0.06	0.24
Insurance and Financial Services	0.00	0.00
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous goc	-0.01	-0.16

CPI analytical series

	July 2020 to August 2020 % change	August 2019 to August 2020 % change
Total excluding fish	0.53	-1.27
Food and non-alcoholic beverages excl fish	1.27	2.84
Fish	0.64	0.45
Actual rentals for housing	-0.07	-5.89

KEY POINTS

The index reference period is August 2019 = 100 and the weight reference period = 2016. Please refer to http://statisticsmaldives.gov.mv/nbs/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/GuideToCPI_Maldives2019-Publication.pdf

THE ALL GROUPS CPI

- The Consumer Price Index for all groups CPI rose by +0.54% in Aug 2020, compared to the rise by +2.81% in July 2020.
- The index for all items excluding fish rose by +0.53% in Aug 2020 compared to the rise of +2.98% in July 2020.
- The Consumer Price Index for all groups CPI fell by -1.20% through the year to Aug 2020, compared to the fall of -1.10% through the year to July 2020.

OVERVIEW OF THE CPI MOVEMENTS

- The most significant price increase in this month were from tobacco (+30.47%), fruit (+4.67%), vegetables (+2.02%), milk, other dairy products and eggs (+0.80%), fish (+0.64%), Other non-alcoholic beverages (+16.28%), aracanut (+4.50%), meat (+1.41%), food products (+0.92%) and bread and cereals (+0.19%).
- The most significant price decrease in this month were from Mobile communication services (-3.22%), Internet access provision services and net storage services (-1.63%) and Actual rentals paid by tenants for main residence (-0.07%).

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

Issue (monthly)

September 2020
October 2020
November 2020
December 2020

Release date

26 October 2020
28 November 2020
30 December 2020
25 January 2020

ROUNDING

ABBREVIATIONS

Any discrepancies between totals and sum of components in this publication are due to rounding.

NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
CPI	Consumer Price Index
n.e.c	not elsewhere classified
F & b. incl fish	Food & non-alcoholic beverages including fish
A, b, t & n	Alcoholic beverages, tobacco & narcotics
C. & f.	Clothing & footwear
H. w., e., g. & o.f	Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels
A, R & T	Actual Rentals paid by tenants
F., h. e c & F.	Furnishing, household equip, & other floor coverings
H	Health
Transp.	Transport
I & C	Information & Communication
R, s & C	Recreation, sport & culture
Educ. S	Education services
R & A	Restaurants & accommodation services
I & F s	Insurance & financial services
P, s & m	Personal care, social protection & miscellaneous
IMF	International Monetary Fund

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Entire process from design to output was carried out with invaluable assistance from Ms. Aishath Shahuda, Ms. Sajida Ahmed and Ms. Aishath Hassan. All their valuable services and those involved in price collection, CPI compilation and providing data from the outlets are gratefully acknowledged. The overall design of this publication is based on Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Consumer Price Index publication. Weights were developed by Mr. Brian Graf with the assistance of Ms. Sajida Ahmed. The data entry setup was developed by Ms. Sajida Ahmed and Ms. Azmeela Hassan.

This issue was prepared by Ms. Azmeela Hassan and Ms. Firsha Ahmed. The entire process of data validation, compilation and updating has been done in close collaboration with all the data providing outlets. Data collection, verification and compilation has been carried out by Ms. Aishath Hassan, Ms. Sajida Ahmed, Ms. Azmeela Hassan, Mr. Shahuleen Moosa, Mr. Nujoom Hassan, Ms. Firsha Ahmed, Mr. Ali Umar, Mr. Vishal Ahmed, Mr. Ahmed Adhuham and Ms.

MAIN CONTRIBUTORS TO CHANGE

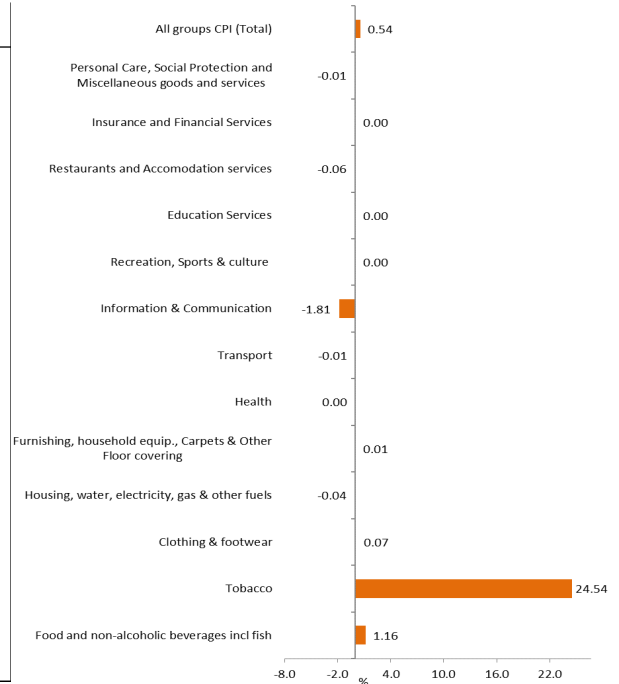
CPI GROUPS

The discussion of the CPI groups below are ordered in terms of their absolute significance to the change in All groups index points for the month (see table1).

CONTRIBUTION TO MONTHLY CHANGE

TOTAL PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH, DISPLAYING ALL CPI GROUPS FOR REPUBLIC (July 2020 to Aug 2020)

CPI GROUPS	Republic	Male ¹	Atolls
ALL GROUPS CPI (Total)	0.54	0.35	0.78
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES INCL FISH	0.26	0.15	0.41
TOBACCO AND ARACANUT	0.46	0.39	0.55
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	0.00	0.00	0.01
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	-0.01	-0.02	0.00
FURNISHING HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENTS, CARPETS, AND OTHER FLOOR COVERINGS	0.00	0.00	0.00
Health	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transport	0.00	0.00	0.00
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION	-0.17	-0.16	-0.18
RECREATION, SPORT AND CULTURE	0.00	0.00	0.00
EDUCATION SERVICES	0.00	0.00	0.00
RESTAURANTS AND ACCOMMODATION SERVICES	0.00	0.00	-0.01
INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	0.00	0.00	0.00
PERSONAL CARE, SOCIAL PROTECTION AND MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	0.00	0.00	0.00



TOBACCO AND ARACANUT (+24.54%)

Tobacco and aracanut group rose by +24.54% in Aug 2020. The main contributor to this rise was the increase in price of cigarettes (+30.16%), tobacco leaves (+40.35%), raw aracanut (+6.19%) and supari (+2.65%). This was due to the increase in import duty.

Over the twelve months until Aug 2020, the Tobacco and aracanut group rose by +29.47%.

FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES (+1.16%)

The Food and non-alcoholic beverages group rose by +1.16% in Aug 2020. The main contributor to this rise was the increase in prices of githeyo mirus (+17.23%), apples (+12.68%), milk powder (+2.12%), *energy drinks (+16.28%), carrot (+11.27%), tuna (+1.16%), watermelon (+18.00%), mango (+11.62%), orange (+19.26%), reef fish (+10.87%), frozen chicken (+1.69%), young coconut (+13.10%), mandarin (+15.17%), coconut (+3.78%) and smoked fish (+1.42%). This rise was partially offset by the decrease in prices of lime (-8.27%), garlic (-10.70%), rihaakuru (-2.11%), bananas (-4.29%), cucumber (-4.04%) and pumpkin (-8.75%).

Over the twelve months until Aug 2020, the food and alcoholic beverages group rose by +2.39%.

Note: *17th Amendment Bill to the Export-Import Act was ratified by the president. Refer to <https://t.co/6nJiuN73Cq?amp=1>

MAIN CONTRIBUTORS TO CHANGE

FISH (+0.64%)

The Fish group rose by +0.64% in Aug 2020. The main contributor to this fall was the increase in price of tuna (+1.16%), reef fish (+10.87%) and smoked fish (+1.42%). This fall was partially offset by the decrease in price of rihaakuru (-2.11%).

Over the twelve months until Aug 2020, the Fish group rose by +0.45%.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR (+0.07%)

The Clothing and footwear group rose by +0.07% in Aug 2020.

Over the twelve months until Aug 2020, the Clothing and footwear group fell by -2.16%.

FURNISHING HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENTS, CAR- PETS, AND OTHER FLOOR COVERINGS (+0.01%)

The Furnishing household equipment, carpets and other floorings group rose by +0.01% in Aug 2020.

Over the twelve months until Aug 2020, the Furnishing household equipment, carpets and other floorings group fell by -0.52%.

RECREATION, SPORT AND CULTURE (+0.00%)

The Recreation, sport and culture group remained unchanged in Aug 2020.

Over the twelve months until Aug 2020, the Recreation, sport and culture group rose by +0.29%.

EDUCATION SERVICES (+0.00%)

The Education services group remained unchanged in Aug 2020.

Over the twelve months until Aug 2020, the Education services group rose by +0.04%.

INSURANCE AND FI- NANCIAL SERVICES (+0.00%)

The Insurance and financial services group remained unchanged in Aug 2020.

HEALTH (+0.00%)

The Health group remained unchanged in Aug 2020.

Over the twelve months until Aug 2020, the Health group rose by +0.17%.

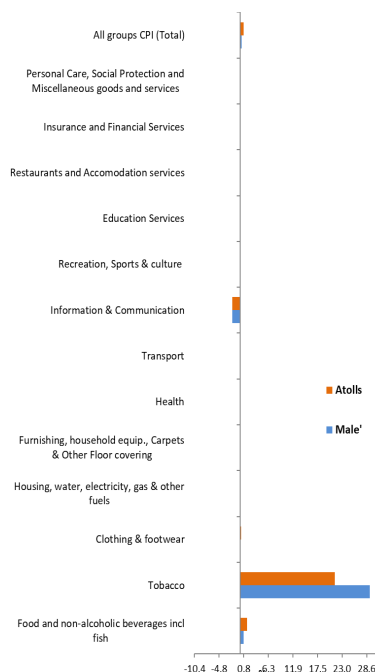
MAIN CONTRIBUTORS TO CHANGE

TRANSPORT (-0.01%)	The Transport group fell by –0.01% in Aug 2020. Over the twelve months until Aug 2020, the Transport group fell by -2.66%.
PERSONAL CARE, SOCIAL PROTECTION AND MISCELLANE- OUS GOODS AND SERVICES (-0.01%)	The Personal care social protection and miscellaneous goods and services group fell by –0.01% in Aug 2020. Over the twelve months until Aug 2020, the Personal care social protection and miscellaneous goods and services group fell by –0.16%.
RESTAURANTS AND ACCOMMO- DATION SERVICES (-0.06%)	The Restaurants and accommodation services group fell by –0.06% in Aug 2020. Over the twelve months until Aug 2020, the Restaurants and accommodation services group rose by +0.24%.
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS (-0.04%)	The Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels group fell by –0.04% in Aug 2020. The main contributor to this fall was the decrease in price of rent from two bedroom apartments (-0.15%). Over the twelve months until Aug 2020, the Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels group fell by –3.45%.
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION (-1.81%)	The Information and communication group fell by –1.81% in Aug 2020. The main contributor to this fall was the decrease in *unit price of mobile phone services used by consumers (-3.22%) and internet bill (-1.63%). Over the twelve months until Aug 2020, the Information and communication group fell by –10.98%. <i>Note: *The total amount paid and total units consumed by different subscribers for voice, sms and data is used to calculate prices of mobile services. Thus, the weighted average amount paid per unit of mobile services is used to monitor the changes in price. Refer to http://statistics.maldives.gov.mv/nbs/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Review-of-the-Consumer-Price-Index-2019-Base-Period-August-2019.pdf</i>

COMPARISON BETWEEN MALE' AND ATOLLS

ALL GROUPS CPI

Total percentage change from previous month, displaying all CPI groups for Male' & Atolls, (July 2020 to Aug 2020)

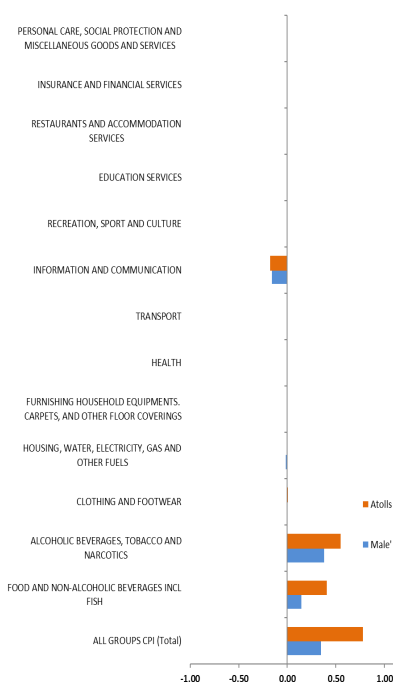


Inflation rates : Male' & Atolls

July 2020 to August 2020

	% change	
	Male'	Atolls
All groups CPI (Total)	0.35	0.78
Food and non-alcoholic beverages incl fish	0.77	1.52
Tobacco and Aracanuts	29.26	21.32
Clothing & footwear	-0.04	0.17
Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels	-0.05	-0.01
Furnishing, household equip., Carpets & Other Floor cc	0.01	0.00
Health	0.00	-0.01
Transport	0.00	-0.01
Information & Communication	-1.85	-1.76
Recreation, Sports & culture	0.00	0.00
Education Services	0.00	0.00
Restaurants and Accommodation services	0.00	-0.16
Insurance and Financial Services	0.00	0.00
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous goc	-0.09	0.06
CPI analytical series		
Total excluding fish	0.41	0.70
Food and non-alcoholic beverages excl fish	1.22	1.33
Fish	-1.37	2.29
Actual rentals for housing	-0.07	-0.07

Contribution to monthly change, Male' & Atolls (July 2020 to Aug 2020)



CPI rose at the All Group Levels in Male' by +0.35 and rose in Atolls by +0.78% in Aug 2020. (See table 2 & 3).

For Male' the largest positive contributor was Tobacco and aracanut group which was recorded at +29.26% due to the increase in price of cigarettes (+35.70%) and raw aracanut (+8.13%). This is due to the increase in import duty.

In Male' the most significant negative contributor was Information and Communication group which was recorded at -1.85% due to the decrease in price of *unit price of mobile phone services used by consumers (-3.22%), internet bill (-1.63%) and cable TV and alike (-0.54%).

For Atolls the largest positive contributor was Tobacco and aracanut group which was recorded at +21.32% due to the increase in price of cigarettes (+26.08%), tobacco leaves (+44.32%) and raw aracanut (+5.12%). This is to the increase in import duty.

In Atolls the most significant negative contributor was Information and Communication group which was recorded at -1.76% due to the decrease in price of *unit price of mobile phone services used by consumers (-3.22%) and internet bill (-1.63%).

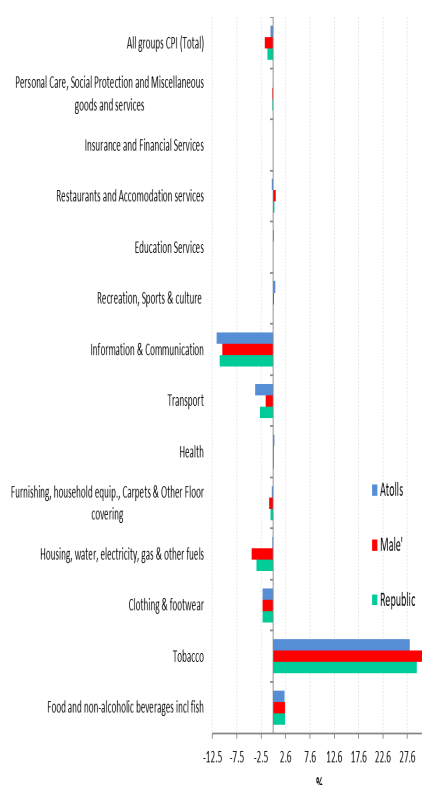
MONTH ON MONTH COMPARISON BETWEEN REPUBLIC, MALE' AND ATOLLS

August 2019 to August 2020

Inflation rates : Republic, Male' & Atolls

	% change		
	Republic	Male'	Atolls
All groups CPI (Total)	-1.20	-1.72	-0.50
Food and non-alcoholic beverages incl fish	2.39	2.47	2.32
Tobacco and Aracanuts	29.47	31.46	28.05
Clothing & footwear	-2.16	-2.16	-2.15
Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels	-3.45	-4.39	-0.16
Furnishing, household equip., Carpets & Other Floor covering	-0.52	-0.81	-0.27
Health	0.17	0.00	0.30
Transport	-2.66	-1.48	-3.69
Information & Communication	-10.98	-10.41	-11.62
Recreation, Sports & culture	0.29	0.18	0.42
Education Services	0.04	0.00	0.15
Restaurants and Accommodation services	0.24	0.53	-0.26
Insurance and Financial Services	0.00	0.00	0.00
Personal Care, Social Protection and Miscellaneous goods and services	-0.16	-0.19	-0.12
CPI analytical series			
Total excluding fish	-1.27	-1.70	-1.09
Food and non-alcoholic beverages excl fish	2.84	3.48	2.35
Fish	0.45	-2.26	0.94
Actual rentals for housing	-5.89	-5.89	-5.83

TOTAL PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM MONTH ON MONTH, DISPLAYING ALL CPI GROUPS FOR REPUBLIC, MALE' AND ATOLLS (Aug 2019 to Aug 2020)



Month on month CPI fell at the All Group Levels for the Republic by -1.20% while in Male' it fell by -1.72% and in atolls, it fell by -0.50%.

Price change in most of the major groups for Republic, Male' and the Atolls showed a similar pattern as they tend to move in the same direction with the exception of Restaurants and Accommodation services group.

At Republic level the most positive contributor to the rise was tobacco group (+29.47%) due to the increase in import duty. The most significant negative contributor to this fall was Information & Communication group (-10.98%).

In Male' the most significant positive contributor to the rise was tobacco group (+31.46%). The most negative contributor to this fall was Information and Communication group (-10.41%).

In Atolls the most positive contributor to the rise was tobacco group (+28.05%). The most significant negative contributor was Information and Communication group (-11.62%).

COMPARISON BETWEEN MALE'AND ATOLLS

ALL GROUPS CPI

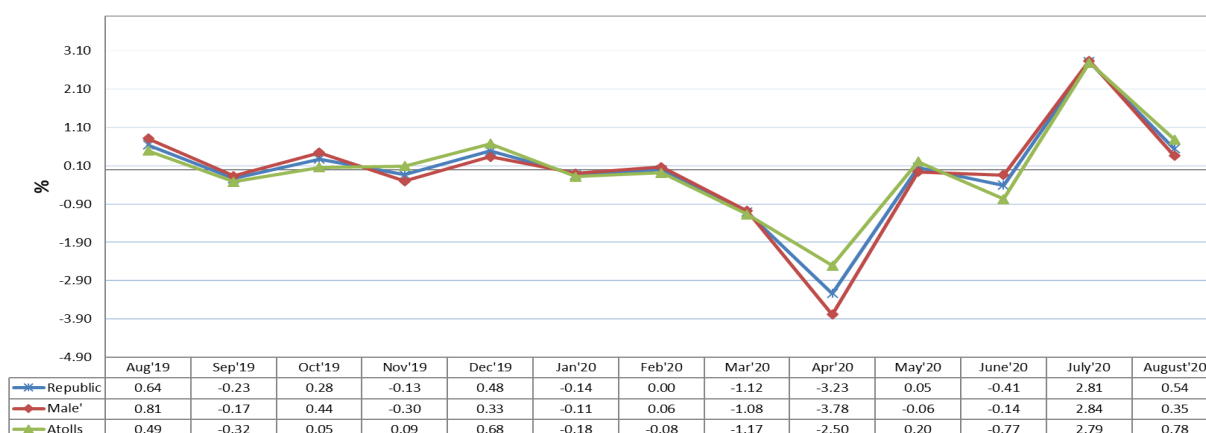
ALL GROUPS CPI, All groups index numbers and percentage changes

	Index number (a)	Percentage change	
	Aug-20	July 2020 to August 2020	August 2019 to August 2020
Republic	98.80	0.54	-1.20
Male'	98.28	0.35	-1.72
Atolls	99.50	0.78	-0.50

(a) Base of each index:Aug 2019=100

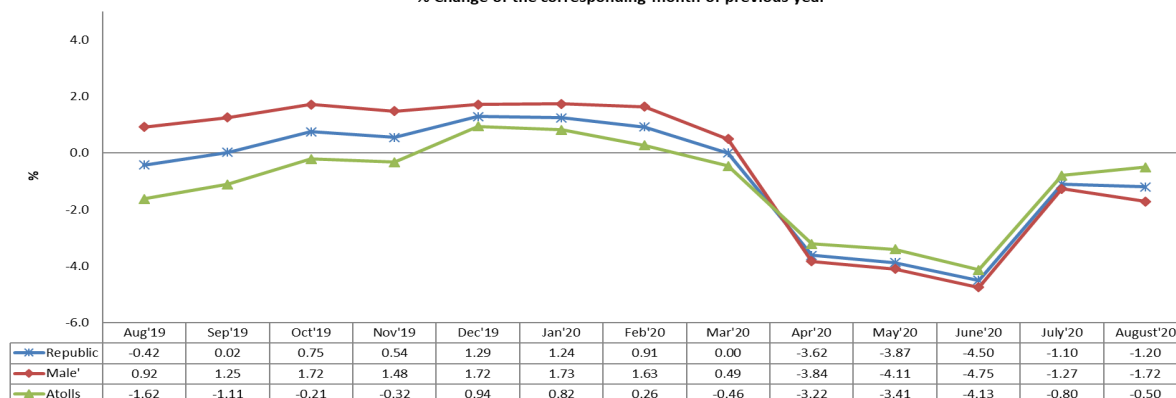
PERCENTAGE CHANGES (from previous month)

Monthly Inflation Rates
(compared to previous month)



PERCENTAGE CHANGES (from corresponding month of previous year)

Month on Month
% Change of the corresponding month of previous year



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6. CPI groups, sub-group and expenditure class, Atolls' (available only on website)
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