

GDDS - DQAF View
Consumer price index

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II. H.HEADER DATA

III. 0. PREREQUISITES

A. 0.2 Resources

0.2.1 Staff, facilities, computing resources, and financing (Encouraged)

[Staff, facilities, computing resources, and financing for statistical programs currently available as well as what would be required for programmed statistical outputs.]

The current number and skill level of staff is adequate to meet the existing workload. The staff consists of eleven (11) permanent field staff and five (5) statistical employees including the head of the sections. In the head office are four (4) permanent field staff and three (3) statistical employees including the Head of the Section. The staff is fulltime CPI staff. In the Region East office there are two (2) permanent field staff members. Both of them are part-time CPI staff. The Head of Region East is also responsible for some CPI duties. In the Region West office there are five (5) permanent field staff members who are also statistical employees, and there the Head also performs CPI duties. Four (4) of the five field staff are full-time - and one (1) is part-time CPI staff.

One additional Statistician is necessary for envisioned improvements.

Computer hardware, software, and related support meet survey requirements.

The GBS physical infrastructure in the CPI area is adequate.

IV. 2. METHODOLOGY

A. 2.1 Concepts and definitions

2.1.1 Concepts and definitions (Required)

[Degree to which the overall structure of concepts and definitions follows internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.]

The CPI of Suriname is predominantly compiled following the Consumer Price Index Manual: Theory and Practice 2004 (ILO, IMF, Organization for Economic Corporation and Development (OECD), Euro Stat, United Nations, and the World Bank).

The weights used to compile the CPI are based on the 2013/2014 Household Budget Survey (HBS), within the framework of the COICOP.

The specifications of goods and services included in the basket are consistent with the concepts and definitions of the CPI manual.

The level of detail of goods and services is sufficient for an in-depth analysis of price changes, without compromising confidentiality of individual items.

B. 2.2 Scope

2.2.1 Scope (Required)

2.2.1.1 Scope of the data

[Scope of the data.]

The CPI covers a set of aggregates that are consistent with the final consumption expenditure of households. It covers circa 86% of non-institutional households in Suriname:

- Suriname's urban and most of the rural area.
- Families of all sizes and income levels.
- Purchase/sale prices of both new and used goods are collected (e.g., used cars).

2.2.1.2 Exceptions to coverage

[Exceptions to coverage.]

Institutional households (excluded) 1.2% (census 2012).

Households in the Rural Interior area (predominantly still living in tribal communities) are excluded – circa 13.8% of non-institutional households.

2.2.1.3 Unrecorded activity

[Unrecorded activity.]

C. 2.3 Classification/sectorization

2.3.1 Classification/sectorization (Required as relevant to data category)

[Broad consistency of classification/sectorization systems used with internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.]

Data include the All –items index and 11 Divisions. The Divisions (weights per 1000) are as follows:

1. Food and non-alcoholic beverages (313)
2. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (18)
3. Clothing and footwear (39)
4. Housing and utilities (229)
5. Household furnishings (52)
6. Health care (47)
7. Transportation (123)
8. Communication (43)
- 9/10. Recreation, culture, and education (34)
11. Food away from home (8)
12. Miscellaneous goods and services (94)

Data as of May 2011 include the Subgroup index and 32 Divisions. The Divisions (weights per 1000) are as follows:

1. Bread and Cereals (81)
2. Meat and Meat Products (56)
3. Fish, Fish Products and Shrimps (21)

4. Milk, Dairy Products and Eggs (39)
5. Butter, Oils and Fats (26)
6. Fruits and Vegetables (25)
7. Sugar and Sugar Products (10)
8. Soft drinks, Fruit & Vegetables juices and Mineral Water (40)
9. Other Foods and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (15)
10. Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco (18)
11. Adult Clothing (21)
12. Child Clothing (4)
13. Adult Footwear (12)
14. Child Footwear (2)
15. Housing, Maintenance, Repair of the dwelling and Utilities (229)
16. Furniture and Housekeeping Textile (11)
17. Household Appliances & Goods (15)
18. Other Goods & Services for Household Furnishings (26)
19. Pharmaceutical Products (16)
20. Medical & Paramedical Services (31)
21. Means of Transport (41)
22. Operation, Maintenance and Repair of Transport Means (76)
23. Transport services (6)
24. Communication Appliances & Services (43)
25. Recreation Appliances, Equipment & Services (14)
26. Gardening (2)
27. Pets (12)
28. Culture and Education (6)
29. Meals Outdoors (7)
30. Sandwich, Donuts and Snacks (1)
31. Beverages Outdoors (0.2)
32. Miscellaneous Goods and Services (94)

The basket of commodities and the weights are derived from the Household Budget Survey that was conducted in Paramaribo, Wanica, Nickerie, Coronie, Saramacca, Commewijne and Para over the period November 2013 – August 2014. The GBS survey sample size was 3,450 addresses (4,021 households) 138 clusters of 25 addresses each, drawn disproportionately in the 7 districts (5 domains).

D. 2.4 Basis for recording

2.4.1 Valuation (Required as relevant to data category)

[Types of prices (market, historical, administrative, basic, purchasers', producer, etc.) used to value flows and stocks.]

CPI weights are based on (plutocratic weighted) household expenditures.

2.4.2 Recording basis (Required as relevant to data category)

[Degree to which recording meets requirements for accrual accounting.]

2.4.3 Grossing/netting procedures (Encouraged)

[Broad consistency of grossing/netting procedures with internationally accepted standards, guidelines, or good practices.]

V. 3. ACCURACY AND RELIABILITY

A. 3.1 Source data

3.1.1 Source data collection programs (Required)

[Comprehensiveness of source data from administrative and survey data collection programs, and appropriateness of the collection modality for country-specific conditions.]

Every month, between 6000 and 6700 price quotations (from a target of circa 6900) are obtained in 5 domains by 11 price collectors..

A total of 316 items are included in the basket. The domains are Paramaribo and Wanica (170 outlets), Nickerie (115 outlets), Coronie and Saramacca (105 outlets) and in Commewijne (120 outlets) with a total of 630 outlets. The outlets are visited daily, weekly, monthly or annually.

Agriculture prices in Paramaribo, Nickerie and Commewijne are collected three times a week, in Wanica and Para once a week. Fish prices in Wanica and Para are collected once a week and in Nickerie three times a week.

The base period is April - June 2016. The base is changed roughly every 6 to 8 years. Weights are set in a single basket system and calculated using the 2013/2014 Household Budget Survey (HBS) as base.

3.1.2 Source data definitions, scope, sectorization, classifications, valuation, and time of recording (Encouraged)

[Degree to which source data approximate definitions, scope, sectorization, classifications, valuation, and time of recording required (as described in 2.1.1-2.4.3).]

Consumption expenditures: all goods that are acquired, used or paid by households but not for business purposes and not for the acquisition of wealth.
Consumption is a mix of acquisition, use and payment.

The COICOP classification is used up to the division (major group) level. It is modified to some extent at the lower levels according to the national situation.

3.1.3 Source data timeliness (Encouraged)

[Source data timeliness relative to what is required for producing statistical outputs whose timeliness meets applicable data standard (SDDS requirements or GDDS recommendations).]

The periodicity and timeliness of the data collection survey is adequate for the timely dissemination of the CPI.

B. 3.2 Assessment of source data

3.2.1 Source data assessment (Encouraged)

[Routine assessment of source data—including censuses, sample surveys, and administrative records (e.g., for coverage, sample error, response error, and nonsampling error); whether assessment results are monitored; how results are used to guide statistical processes.]

The coefficients of variation for the weights and relative importance are reviewed before the CPI computation is completed. Price changes beyond certain limits are flagged.

Outliers are confirmed with respondents, and a record of this confirmation is kept.

Surveys are audited, both randomly and based on variations, to monitor the work of enumerators.

C. 3.3 Statistical techniques

3.3.1 Source data statistical techniques (Required as relevant to data category)

[Statistical techniques in data compilation to deal with data sources (e.g., to align them with target concepts from 2.1.1).]

Compilation procedures minimize processing errors.

Adjustments to records are made only when clearly warranted.

Normally with one month time lag.

Imputation procedures have a sound basis. Mainly using group imputations (occasionally the last price is carried forward).

Quality adjustments are made to goods and services defined as heterogeneous.

3.3.2 Other statistical procedures (Required as relevant to data category)

[Statistical techniques employed in other statistical procedures (e.g., data adjustments and transformations, and statistical analysis).]

A basic consumer price index is compiled, in the form of an approximate Laspeyres price index.

D. 3.4 Data validation

3.4.1 Validation of intermediate results (Encouraged)

[Assessment and investigation of statistical discrepancies in intermediate data.]

See 3.2.1.

3.4.2 Assessment of intermediate data (Encouraged)

[Assessment and investigation of statistical discrepancies in intermediate data.]

Unusual changes in the index resulting from potential problems in price data are investigated.

3.4.3 Assessment of discrepancies and other problems in statistical outputs (Encouraged)

[Investigation of statistical discrepancies and other potential indicators of problems in statistical outputs.]

E. 3.5 Revision studies

3.5.1 Revision studies and analyses (Encouraged)

[Periodicity with which studies and analyses of revisions and/or updates are carried out; whether and how they are used internally to inform statistical processes (see also 4.3.3).]

VI. 4. SERVICEABILITY

A. 4.1 Periodicity and timeliness

4.1.1 Periodicity (Required)

[Periodicity of statistical outputs relative to applicable dissemination standard (SDDS requirement or GDDS recommendation).]

Monthly.

4.1.2 Timeliness (Required)

[Timeliness of statistical outputs relative to applicable dissemination standard (SDDS requirement or GDDS recommendation).]

Data are disseminated about the 22nd of the month following the reference month; occasionally if the day is not a working day the next working day after the 22nd.

B. 4.2 Consistency

4.2.1 Internal consistency (Required as relevant to data category)

[Consistency of statistics within the dataset.]

The statistical series are internally consistent.

4.2.2 Temporal consistency (Encouraged)

[Consistency or reconcilability of statistics over a reasonable period of time.]

Price quotations are obtained as much as possible, the same number of days apart.

GBS publishes monthly data for two previous years. The monthly press release provides a long time series of the All-items index showing data for the All-items index and 11 divisions. Data for the most recent 3 months are also disseminated for the domains Paramaribo/Wanica, Nickerie, Coronie/ Saramacca, Commewijne and Para; these data include the All-items index and the 11 divisions.

Since 2008 monthly data are disseminated via the GBS website.

4.2.3 Intersectoral and cross-domain consistency (Encouraged)

[Consistency or reconcilability of statistics with those obtained through other data sources and/or statistical frameworks.]

CPI average-to-average and December-to-December annual inflation is often compared to inflation obtained from the GDP deflator (or parts thereof)

C. 4.3 Revision

4.3.1 Revision and/or update schedule (Required)

[Transparency and regularity of revision/update schedule.]

The monthly data are not final and are subject to revision. The revision takes place the following month when the CPI is published. Once revised, these data become final.

4.3.2 Identification of preliminary and/or revised/updated data (Required)

[Identification of preliminary and/or revised/updated data.]

Preliminary / provisional data are indicated with an asterisk (*)

Routine data for the next month that have been made final are not separately indicated as it is understood that data from month **T** can be changed in month **T+1**

In case an error is detected in data one or more months ago this is indicated with a number sign (#)

4.3.3 Dissemination of revision studies and analyses (Encouraged)

[Dissemination of revision studies and analyses (see also 3.5.1).]

Apart from the dedicated CPI publications, CPI and inflation are ever so often treated in papers included in the Statistical Papers of the GBS (Series commenced in 2001).

VII. 5. ACCESSIBILITY

A. 5.1 Data

5.1.1 Statistical presentation (Required)

[Statistics are presented in a way that facilitates proper interpretation and meaningful comparisons (layout and clarity of text, tables, and charts).]

Datasets are published with different levels of detail.

The time series are available to users.

Monthly variations, year-on-year variations and average-to-average variations are presented.

5.1.2 Dissemination media and format (Required)

5.1.2.1 Hard copy - New release

[Hard copy - New release.]

Hard copy, CPI-sheets and press release to the media.

Free distribution within GBS and the release is sent to selected (government) institutions.

The CPI release is also uploaded on the GBS website the next working day.

5.1.2.2 Hard copy - Weekly bulletin

[Hard copy - Weekly bulletin.]

5.1.2.3 Hard copy - Monthly Bulletin

[Hard copy - Monthly Bulletin.]

5.1.2.4 *Hard copy - Quarterly bulletin*

[Hard copy - Quarterly bulletin.]

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5.1.2.5 *Hard copy - Other*

[Hard copy - Other.]

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5.1.2.6 *Electronic - On-line bulletin or data*

[Electronic - On-line bulletin or data.]

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5.1.2.7 *Electronic - Other*

[Electronic - Other.]

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5.1.5 **Dissemination on request (Encouraged)**

[Dissemination on request of unpublished but non-confidential statistics.]

Data not routinely disseminated, are made available upon request as long as they do not violate confidentiality of individual items.

B. 5.2 Metadata

5.2.1 **Dissemination of documentation on concepts, scope, classifications, basis of recording, data sources, and statistical techniques (Required)**

[Dissemination of documentation on concepts, scope, classifications, basis of recording, data sources, and statistical techniques, including annotation of differences from internationally accepted standards, guidelines.]

The monthly CPI- sheets or press release, which is available to the public, provides methodological notes. The GBS publication Consumer Price Indexes and Inflation in Suriname since 1954 contains a detailed statement of the methodology in Dutch.

The latest information about the methodology regards the HBS 2013/2014 publications (volume I and II). The following volumes were released:

- Household Budget Survey 2013/2014 Vol. I : Final results for all 5 strata combined (totals)
- Household Budget Survey 2013/2014 Vol. II: Results per stratum

VIII. 9. PLANS

A. 9.1 Recent

9.1.1 Plans for improvement - Recent improvements

[Plans for improvement - Recent improvements.]

B. 9.2 General

9.2.1 Plans for improvement - Short-term

[Plans for improvement - Short-term.]

Piloting the use of tablet computers (handhelds) for price surveys

The next HBS in 2019/2020 will most likely be extended to 8 or 9 districts.

-- Use of handhelds for data collection of certain modules, during HBS 2019/2020 and for price surveys afterwards.

9.2.2 Plans for improvement - Medium-term

[Plans for improvement - Medium-term.]

C. 9.3 Financial

9.3.1 Plans for improvement - TA/financing needs - Short-term

[Plans for improvement - TA/financing needs - Short-term.]

Financial support from the Government of Suriname needs to be improved

9.3.2 Plans for improvement - TA/financing needs - Medium-term

[Plans for improvement - TA/financing needs - Medium-term.]

Funds need to be guaranteed for all CPI and related operations, inclusive of ICP

Naturally, funding to the NSO in general needs to be improved and guaranteed.

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