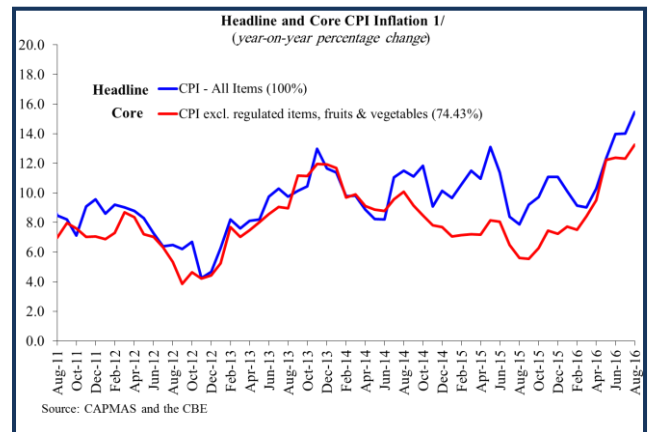
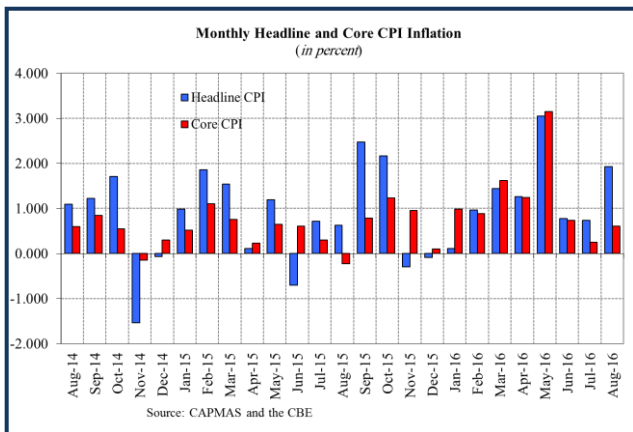


Headline and Core Inflation – August 2016

Headline CPI published by the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics on September 8, 2016 increased by 1.93 percent (m/m) in August 2016 compared to 0.74 percent (m/m) in July 2016. The annual rate increased to 15.47 percent in August from 14.0 percent in July. The bulk of the monthly increase was driven by higher prices of regulated items, primarily electricity, in addition to the increase in the prices of butane cylinders due to supply bottlenecks in the distribution channels. This came in addition to increases in the prices fresh vegetables and red meat, which were partly offset by the decline in the prices of poultry and rice. Meanwhile, core CPI computed by the Central Bank of Egypt increased by 0.61 percent (m/m) in August 2016 compared to 0.25 percent (m/m) in July 2016. The annual rate increased to 13.25 percent in August from 12.31 percent in July.¹

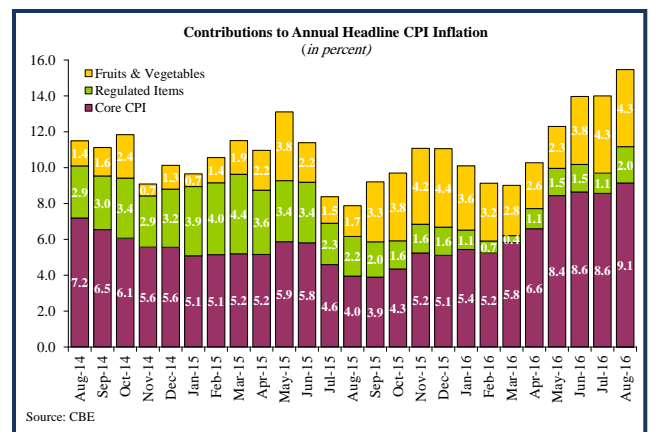
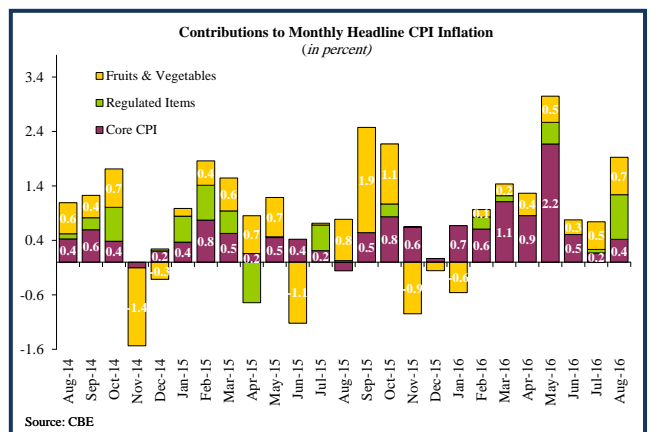


1. Headline CPI²

Headline CPI increased by 1.93 percent (m/m) in August 2016 compared to 0.74 percent (m/m) in July, which is above the average monthly pace during the first seven months of 2016 that records 1.19 percent. The annual rate increased to 15.47 percent in August from 14.0 percent in July.

Key Highlights

- There was an upward adjustment in the prices of electricity, in addition to the increase in the prices of butane cylinders, due to supply bottlenecks in the distribution channels. As a result, the weighted price increase of regulated items registered 4.60 percent (m/m) in August, contributing by 0.82 percentage points to monthly headline inflation.
- The prices of fresh vegetables increased by 6.33 percent (m/m), while prices of fresh fruits declined by 0.62 percent (m/m). Together they contributed by 0.69 percentage points to monthly headline inflation.

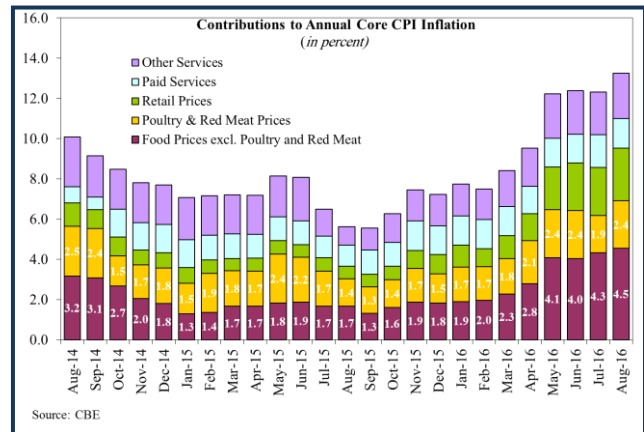
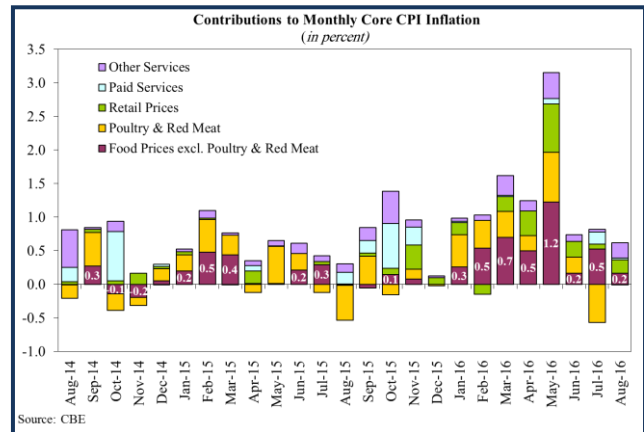


- The prices of red meat increased by 3.90 percent (m/m) to contribute by 0.29 percentage points to monthly headline inflation. On the other hand, prices of poultry continued to decline by 5.81 percent (m/m) to contribute by negative 0.29 percentage points to monthly headline inflation.
- The prices of eggs declined by 2.13 percent (m/m) to contribute by negative 0.04 percentage points to monthly headline inflation.
- The prices of rice declined for the first time this year by 4.26 percent to contribute by negative 0.13 percentage point to monthly headline inflation. This brings the cumulative monthly increase since the beginning of 2016 to 48.75 percent.
- The prices of other food items including pulses, sugar, fish and sea food, milk, cheese, domestic butter, margarine, ghee, wheat, maize and processed meat picked up to contribute jointly by 0.27 percentage points to monthly headline inflation.
- The prices of retail items increased by 1.22 percent (m/m) to contribute by 0.14 percentage points to monthly headline inflation. The notable increases were witnessed in the prices of cars, HH cleaning products, personal care products, furniture, spare parts and HH appliances.
- The prices of other services increased slightly by 0.91 percent (m/m) to contribute by 0.16 percentage points to monthly headline inflation, which was mainly driven by the increase in the prices of Haj and Omra trip and inland transportation.
- The prices of paid services increased slightly by 0.30 percent (m/m) to contribute by 0.02 percentage points to monthly headline inflation, which was mainly driven by the increase in the prices of nurseries.

2. Core Inflation²

Core CPI computed by the Central Bank of Egypt increased by 0.61 percent (m/m) in August 2016 compared to an increase by 0.25 percent (m/m) in July, which is below the average monthly pace during the first seven months of 2016 that records 1.27 percent. The annual rate increased to 13.25 percent in August from 12.31 percent in July.

The monthly dynamics were mainly driven by the developments in the prices of previously mentioned retail items and other services, which contribute jointly by 0.43 percentage points to monthly core inflation. This came in addition to the increase in the prices of core food items that contributed by 0.16 percentage points to monthly core inflation. In the meantime paid services contributed negligibly by 0.03 percentage points to monthly core inflation.



1/ CAPMAS publishes three CPI series: (1) the CPI for urban areas which include Cairo, Alexandria, urban Lower Egypt, urban Upper Egypt, Canal cities and Frontier governorates, (2) the CPI for rural areas, and (3) the CPI for All areas. Numbers quoted in this note refer to CPI-Urban .

2/ It is important to underscore that the monthly percentage changes of both headline and core CPI between September 2009 and July 2010 do not match rates of changes presented in previous inflation notes given the replacement of the 8th CPI series by the 9th series starting from August 2009 (Full details are discussed in the Technical Appendix of the August 2010 Inflation Note).

Table 1.
Classification of All Items included in Core CPI

Food	Retail	Paid Services	Other Services
Bread and cereals	Clothing	Tailors, laundry & shoe repair	Rentals (new law)
Meat	Fabrics	Dwelling maintenance services	Rental value of owner occupied housing
Fish and other seafood	Footwear	Portman & gardener's services	Hospital services
Eggs & Dairy products	Products related to dwelling repairment	Cook & maid's services	Transportation Services
Oils and fats	Furniture	Technicians to HH appliances	Mobile & internet services
Dried fruits	Carpets and other floor covering	Repairs of Audio-visual equipment	Recreational & sporting services
Processed vegetables	Household (HH) textiles	Physicians	Cultural services
Pulses	HH appliances	Mechanics	Hajj & Omra trips
Sugar and confectionery	Glassware, tableware and HH utensils	Teachers	Restaurants and Cafes
Other food products	HH small tools & supplies	Hairdressers	Accommodation services
Beverages	HH cleaning products		Private schools
	HH miscellaneous products		
	Purchase of vehicles		
	Spare parts		
	Motor oil		
	Telephone & telefax equipment		
	Home entertainment equipment		
	Recreational equipment		
	Personal care supplies and products		
	Personal effects		
	Books		
	School supplies		
	Medical care goods		

Table 2.
 Consumer Price Index and Major Components 1/

	Weight in basket 2/	August 2015	August 2016	August 2016 to July 2016	August 2016 to August 2015
	(in percent)	(index)		(percentage change)	
		(January 2010 = 100)			
Headline - All items	100.00	164.66	190.13	1.93	15.47
Food and beverages	39.92	193.63	231.03	1.63	19.32
Tobacco and related products	2.19	314.57	323.94	0.00	2.98
Clothing and footwear	5.41	123.82	136.42	0.00	10.18
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	18.37	128.50	138.73	6.05	7.96
Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the dwelling	3.77	141.95	161.89	2.36	14.05
Medical care	6.33	131.69	172.48	0.00	30.97
Transportation	5.68	139.57	148.17	2.31	6.17
Communications	3.12	96.85	96.92	0.01	0.07
Recreation and Culture	2.43	173.37	202.35	4.87	16.71
Education	4.63	196.93	219.01	0.00	11.21
Hotels, cafes and restaurants	4.43	181.33	216.62	0.00	19.47
Miscellaneous goods and services	3.73	112.03	129.76	2.06	15.82
Selective aggregates					
Fruits & vegetables 3/	6.90	283.68	386.24	5.05	36.15
Regulated items	18.66	168.38	186.22	4.60	10.59
Food excl. fruits & vegetables	31.08	179.26	204.51	0.31	14.08
Retail items	14.48	126.00	146.46	1.22	16.24
Paid services	5.87	161.46	190.28	0.30	17.85
Other services	23.00	131.33	142.45	0.91	8.47
Core CPI	74.43	152.68	172.92	0.61	13.25

1/ Source: CAPMAS and CBE calculations

2/ Based on 2008/2009 Household Expenditure Survey

3/ Excluding pulses, processed vegetables and dried fruits