

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY

# SPECIAL RELEASE

## GENERAL RETAIL PRICE INDEX IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION (2000=100)

**MARCH 2019**

**Date of Release:** 30 APRIL 2019

**Reference No.** 2019- 127

### Year-on-Year and Month-on-Month Changes of GRPI (in Percent)

	March 2019	February 2019	March 2018	Year-to-Date
<b>Year-on-Year</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>1.6</b>
<b>Month-on Month</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>	

- Year-on-Year**

#### **Annual increase of General Retail Price Index (GRPI) in the National Capital Region (NCR) decelerates further in March 2019**

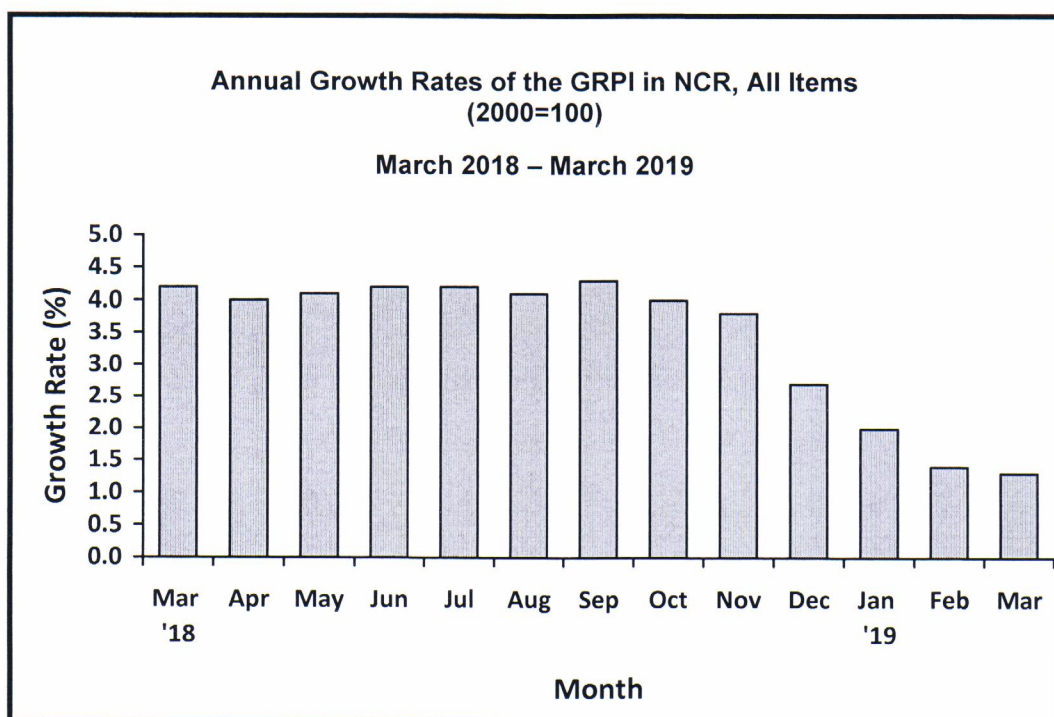
The annual increment of GRPI in NCR slowed down further to 1.3 percent in March 2019. Its annual rates were higher in February 2019 at 1.4 percent and in March 2018, 4.2 percent. Compared with their annual mark-ups in February 2019, slower annual rates were noted in the indices of all the commodity groups, except mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials, and miscellaneous manufactured articles. The annual growth of mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials index was higher at 4.3 percent during the month, while miscellaneous manufactured articles index retained its previous month's annual rate of 1.0 percent (see Table 2).



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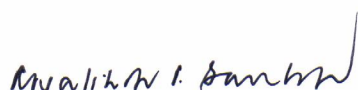
- ***Month-on-Month***

#### **GRPI in NCR picks up in March 2019**

The month-on-month rate of GRPI in NCR inched up by 0.1 percent in March 2019 after posting a 0.1 percent drop in February 2019.

- Price increases in some medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations, cleanser, bath soap and insecticide slightly pushed up the index of chemicals, including animal and vegetables oils and fats by 0.1 percent.
- A 0.4 percent growth was noted in the index of manufactured goods classified chiefly by materials in March 2019. Higher prices were observed in selected construction materials, school supplies and household utensils.
- The machinery and transport equipment index exhibited a 0.1 percent hike in March 2019. Electrical lamps and selected electrical appliances were priced higher during the month.
- Price upticks in selected clothing and footwear items, and textbooks resulted to a 0.1 percent gain in the index of miscellaneous manufactured articles.
- The increment in the index of beverages and tobacco in March 2019 at 0.4 percent was slower compared with its previous month's rate of 1.0 percent. Higher prices noted in selected alcoholic beverages during the period were tempered by the price decreases in selected cigarettes.

- The rate of increase in mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials index decelerated to 3.1 percent in March 2019. Compared with February 2019, price increases recorded in gasoline, diesel, LPG and kerosene were slower during the month.
- The heavily-weighted food index further decreased by 0.5 percent in March 2019 due to lower prices of beef, pork, fish, rice, corn, fruits, vegetables, sugar, cooking oil and salt.
- The index of crude materials, inedible except fuels continued to drop as it declined by 0.2 percent in March 2019. Prices of sand and gravel went down during the month.



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