Day Break

Monday, September 2, 2024



Exhibit: Monthly CPI trend

Aug/23 Feb/24 Aug/24 Source: IGI Research, PBS

Inflation

Aug-24: CPI Prints 9.64%y/y Growth; up by +0.39%m/m

- Recent inflation data released by Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), shows for the month of Aug-24, headline CPI registered a +9.64%y (up by +0.39%m) growth compared to previous month, +11.09%y (+2.1%m).
- Monthly increase in CPI was mainly led by higher food, health, education and restaurants. However, lower motor fuel prices restricted overall increase in CPI. On yearly basis, increase in inflation was limited by slowdown in food prices and higher base effect. Monthly CPI stood at 27.4% in Aug-23. As a result, 2MFY25 average inflation stands at 10.4% compared to 27.8% in the similar period last year.
- Although food and other essential prices continued to rise in Aug-24, overall CPI declined due to high base effect and lower fuel prices.
 However, potential adjustment in energy prices along with rise in oil prices remain key risk to inflation outlook. We expect inflation to average between 11-12% for FY25, leaving ample room for further monetary easing.

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Exhibit: Monthly National Consumer Price Index (CPI) growth estimates						
Estimated For the month of: August, 2024						
	Wt.	y/y	m/m	1MFY25	1MFY24	1MFY23
National	100.0%	9.6%	0.4%	10.4%	27.8%	26.10%
Food	35%	2.5%	1.5%	2.0%	39.0%	29.1%
Transport	6%	3.2%	-0.7%	7.7%	18.3%	63.9%
Utility/Rent	24%	22.2%	-1.4%	23.8%	8.5%	24.7%
Essentials	17%	16.1%	0.5%	16.8%	16.6%	12.5%
Disc.	18%	9.7%	0.7%	10.7%	43.3%	22.2%

Source: PBS, IGI Research

Analyst

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Higher food prices lift overall CPI

Food index inclined by +1.5%m/m owing to increase in prices of Wheat, Rice, Chicken, Meat, Milk, Eggs and Fresh Vegetables/Fruits. Food prices contributed +0.5%m/m increase in overall CPI.

Transport index declined by 0.7%m/m

Transport index dropped by 0.7%m/m mainly due to decline in POL product prices. Decline n Motor fuel and transport services contributed nearly 0.07% to overall CPI.

Urban inflation continues to remain high since Nov-23

Urban inflation increased by +0.27%m/m to +11.71%y/y during the month of Aug-24, whereas rural inflation inclined by +0.55%m/m to +6.73%y/y.

SPI declines further in Aug-24

Other indices, Wholesale Price Index (WPI) registered a +6.28%y/y and +0.3%m/m growth during Aug-24. Sensitive Price Index (SPI) recorded a +10.85%y/y growth while down by 0.3%m/m during the month of Aug-24 compared to +15.74%y/y in the preceding month.

Outlook

Although food and other essential prices continued to rise in Aug-24, overall CPI declined due to high base effect and lower fuel prices. However, potential adjustment in energy prices along with rise in oil prices remain key risk to inflation outlook. We expect inflation to average between 11-12% for FY25, leaving ample room for further monetary easing.

Exhibit: National Core-inflation measures												
	Aug/24	Jul/24	Jun/24	May/24	Apr/24	Mar/24	Feb/24	Jan/24	Dec/23	Nov/23	Oct/23	Sep/23
СРІ	9.6	11.1	12.6	11.8	17.3	20.7	23.1	28.3	29.7	29.2	26.8	31.4
SPI	10.9	15.7	16.4	15.3	21.6	25.9	30.4	36.2	35.3	30.6	34.2	32.0
WPI	6.3	10.4	10.6	9.9	13.9	14.8	18.7	27.0	27.3	26.4	24.6	26.4
NFNE	11.9	13.8	14.1	14.2	15.6	15.7	18.1	20.5	21.0	21.5	21.8	22.1
Trimmed	8.6	10.7	10.6	10.8	14.0	16.2	18.1	23.6	25.2	24.9	27.0	28.3

Source: PBS, IGI Research



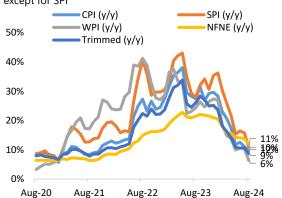
Exhibit: Historical CPI Trend

Headline inflation breaks decades old record



Exhibit: Major Price Indices

All major indices have depicted a slowdown in growth except for $\ensuremath{\mathsf{SPI}}$



Source: PBS, SBP, IGI Research

Exhibit: CPI rebased to June

CPI rebased to June shows decline in inflation since Mar-24

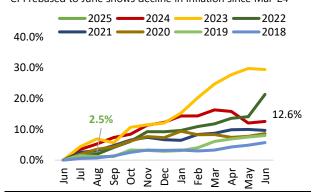
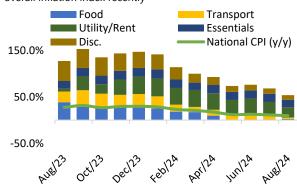


Exhibit: Percentage point impact of each group on headline figure

Transport, utility and essential items have been driving the overall inflation index recently





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