

## The Consumer Price Index in Taipei for February 2012

The Consumer Price Index(CPI) in Taipei for February 2012 was 106.16(2006=100), falling 1.54% from previous month, mainly because some prices fell after Chinese New Year's Festival, nurse and maid service costs decreased which caused Household Operations prices to move down 36.28%. Prices of Food went down 1.16%, of which Vegetables declined 16.15% for sufficient supply, Fish & Shellfish and Fruits prices decreased 5.03% and 4.84% respectively. Additionally, Clothing prices fell by 3.68% for winter clothes promotion, prices of Transportation & Communication Services and Vehicle Parts and Entertainment Expense moved down 1.11% and 0.49% individually.

The annual change for CPI in Taipei for February 2012, compared with the same month of previous year, moved up 0.30%. Distorted by timing of the Chinese New Year, which fell in January this year (compared with February last year), decreases of Household Operations move down 37.24%. Transportation & Communication Services and Vehicle Parts declined 2.51%, mainly because the cheaper communication fee. Education & Entertainment moved down 0.74% due to 3C price reduction. Nevertheless, Food prices move up 2.03% for prices of Vegetables and Food Away from Home moved up 19.69% and 1.80% separately, while Fruits decreased 14.00%. Clothing prices rose 2.47%, mainly because Apparel Services & Accessories prices increased 8.63%.

For the first two months of 2012, the CPI increased by 1.17% over the same period of previous year. Prices of Food went up 3.11%, prices of Housing moved up 1.03%, prices of Clothing went up 2.54%, prices of Miscellaneous moved up 2.09%, prices of Medicines and Medical Care went up 1.28%, prices of Transportation & Communication moved down 1.22%, prices of Education & Entertainment fees went down 0.60%.

