Table 6.12: Percentage distribution of average monthly household expenditure on major food groups by sector - 2006

Major food groups	Sri Lanka (%)	Urban (%)	Rural (%)	Estate (%)
All food items	100	100	100	100
Cereals	15.0	10.2	15.4	27.8
Prepared foods	12.3	17.9	11.2	6.2
Pluses	3.4	2.5	3.6	4.5
Vegetables	8.3	6.8	8.7	8.7
Meat	3.8	5.5	3.4	3.0
Fish	8.6	10.4	8.4	3.4
Dried fish	4.1	2.4	4.6	2.7
Coconuts	5.0	4.0	5.2	4.8
Condiments	9.1	8.3	9.2	10.0
Milk & milk foods	9.5	10.2	9.3	9.0
Fats & oils	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.7
Sugar, juggery, Treacle	4.2	3.5	4.4	4.2
Fruits	3.8	4.6	3.7	1.8
Other food items	11.0	11.8	10.9	11.0

Table 6.13 gives expenditure values and their quantities of some selected food items by sector. The consumption pattern of selected food items such as rice, wheat flour, bread, fresh fish and meat varies from sector to sector. When sectors are compared, it is seen that the households in estate sector consume wheat flour and rice (Nadu) than those in other two sectors. On the other hand households in urban sector consume more bread, rice (Samba), chicken, beef, Kelawalla (fresh fish) than those in other two sectors. Households in rural sector consume more rice (Kekulu), Sprats (dried fish) than those in other two sectors.