

As usual, expenditure on housing is the highest expenditure group in Sri Lanka among major non food expenditure groups. It is to be noted that the estimated rental value of owner occupied housing units, housing units occupied without paying any rental fee etc are also included in this group. This proportion is 17.4 percent of total non food expenditure. The mean expenditure on transport is reported as Rs. 1745 (12 percent of total non food expenditure). Spending on transportation was rapidly changed over the period, rising 26.8 percent from Rs. 1376 in 2005 to Rs 1745 in 2006. Other miscellaneous expenses and other adhoc (rarely) expenses groups contain a large amount on expenditure on weddings, funerals, social activities, ceremonies, payment of debts, construction or renewal of part of the house, savings, donations etc. during the one year (last year) reference period. Thus it is reported relatively higher value than in other major non food expenditure groups.

Table 6.14: Average monthly household expenditure on major non food groups by sector - 2006

Major non - food Group	Sri Lanka (Rs.)	Urban (Rs.)	Rural (Rs.)	Estate (Rs.)
Total	14565	27375	12868	6089
Housing	2531	5187	2173	860
Fuel & light	976	1717	866	681
Personal care & health expenses	1044	1510	989	628
Transport	1745	2728	1656	469
Communication	526	1122	449	115
Education	622	1498	494	225
Cultural activities & entertainment	267	653	211	75
Non durable household goods & hh services	278	471	253	149
Clothing, textiles & Foot wear	793	1036	767	529
Durable household goods	73	88	71	66
Long durable household goods	950	1699	869	178
Other miscellaneous expenses	2260	5267	1822	869
Other adhoc(rarely)expenses	1998	3829	1780	396
Liquor and tobacco	504	570	470	850