



# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



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## **FEBRUARY 2015**

The Consumer Price Index registered a decline of 1.4 percent for the month of February 2015. The “All Items” index was recorded at 106.0 for the month of February in comparison to 107.5 for the month of January 2015. The “point-to-point” inflation rate was recorded as negative 1.1 percent.

Four (4) groups recorded decreases during the month: “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (3.7 percent), “Transport” (2.4 percent), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.5 percent) and “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.4 percent). Three (3) groups recorded increases during the month: “Communication” (1.7 percent), “Health” (1.2 percent), and “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (0.5 percent). Five (5) groups remained unchanged, “Clothing and Footwear”, “Recreation and Culture”, “Restaurants and Hotels”, “Education” and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services”.

The group index for “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” declined by 3.7 percent as a result of a decrease in the cost of LPG cooking gas and electricity. The fall in the price for cooking gas was due to lower prices for the 25 lb cylinder gas (30.9 percent), 20 lb cylinder gas (29.9 percent) and the 100 lb cylinder gas (28.5 percent). Similarly, the decrease in the cost of electricity was as a result of a fall in the fuel surcharge rate which moved from 45.49 cents per kilowatt hour for January 2014 to 31.69 cents per kilowatt hour for February 2015.

The “Transport” index declined by 2.4 percent due to a decrease in the price of airfare from St Vincent and the Grenadines to New York (15.8 percent) and London (15.3 percent), as well as a reduction in the price of petrol (9.8 percent) and diesel (8.7 percent).

The 0.5 percent decrease in the “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” index was attributed to a decrease in the price of some food items such as: tomatoes (22.7 percent), pawpaw (12.9 percent), cabbage (12.0 percent), eddoes (6.9 percent), chicken wings (4.6 percent), tannias (3.8 percent) and powdered milk - full cream (2.0 percent).

The index for the group “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” declined by 0.4 percent mainly as a result of a decrease in the price of a chest of drawers (20.0 percent) and a five piece dining set (19.2 percent).

The “Communication” group index registered an increase of 1.7 percent as a result of increases in the price of several telephone rates namely: mobile to mobile calls to the United Kingdom (UK) (18.4 percent), mobile to mobile domestic calls (2.6 percent), mobile to mobile calls to the Rest of the World (5.3 percent), and mobile to fixed line domestic calls (2.4 percent).

Meanwhile, the index for the group “Health” grew by 1.2 percent due to an increase of 20.0 percent in the cost for gynaecologist consultation fee.

**TABLE 1**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**

ITEM	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		ECS			
		FEBRUARY 2015	JANUARY 2014		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Mozzarella cheese	Lb	15.16	14.22	0.94	6.61
Spinach	Lb	2.99	2.67	0.32	11.99
English Potatoes	Lb	2.34	2.27	0.07	3.08
Pasta - Elbows	340g Pk	4.36	4.21	0.15	3.56
Pasta - Spaghetti	340g Pk	5.10	4.90	0.20	4.08
Sliced bacon	12oz Pk	13.11	12.63	0.48	3.80
Apple juice	1 Litre	6.93	6.67	0.26	3.90
Orange juice	1 Litre	6.47	6.36	0.11	1.73
Powdered chocolate	300g Pk	10.58	10.46	0.12	1.15
Doctor's Fee - Gynaecologist	1 Visit	60.00	50.00	10.00	20.00
Mobile to Mobile - domestic (peak rate)	1 minute	0.80	0.78	0.02	2.56
Mobile to Fixed line - domestic (peak rate)	1 minute	0.86	0.84	0.02	2.38
Mobile to Mobile - UK (day rate)	1 minute	1.48	1.25	0.23	18.40
Mobile to Rest of the world (peak period)	1 minute	1.58	1.50	0.08	5.33
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Eggs	Doz	8.64	8.79	-0.15	-1.71
Chicken -Wings	Lb	4.83	5.06	-0.23	-4.55
Powdered Milk - Full cream	Lb	8.88	9.06	-0.18	-1.99
Tannias	Lb	2.76	2.87	-0.11	-3.83
Tomatoes	Lb	3.31	4.28	-0.97	-22.66
Eddoes	Lb	2.58	2.77	-0.19	-6.86
Cabbage	Lb	3.07	3.49	-0.42	-12.03
Pawpaw	Lb	1.62	1.86	-0.24	-12.90
Electricity Consumption Charge	140KWH	114.37	133.69	-19.32	-14.45
Cooking gas	20Lb.Cyl.	31.25	44.56	-13.31	-29.87
	25Lb.Cyl.	37.75	54.67	-16.92	-30.95
	100Lb.Cyl.	148.50	207.78	-59.28	-28.53
Dining set 5pcs	Each	1592.62	1972.25	-379.63	-19.25
Chest of drawers - clear finish	Each	1199.00	1499.00	-300.00	-20.01
Frying Pan - 8" non stick	Each	49.95	40.95	9.00	21.98
Petrol unleaded	1 Gal.	11.47	12.72	-1.25	-9.83
Diesel fuel	1 Gal.	11.79	12.91	-1.12	-8.68
Passenger air transport St.Vincent to:					
London	Month	4105.80	4846.50	-740.70	-15.28
New York	Month	2319.20	2755.10	-435.90	-15.82
Trinidad & Tobago	One way	513.54	537.17	-23.63	-4.40

**TABLE 2**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**FEBRUARY 2015 COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 2014**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		FEBRUARY 2015	FEBRUARY 2014		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.36	6.19	0.17	2.75
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.86	2.93	-0.07	-2.39
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.67	1.70	-0.03	-1.76
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.83	4.88	-0.05	-1.02
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.85	3.43	0.42	12.24
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Robins)	Lb.	4.00	5.00	-1.00	-20.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	5.28	5.41	-0.13	-2.40
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	7.60	7.75	-0.15	-1.94
Codfish	Lb.	14.63	14.15	0.48	3.39
Cornflakes	12 oz	12.76	12.27	0.49	3.99
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.36	4.15	0.21	5.06
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.39	3.23	0.16	4.95
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	3.54	3.31	0.23	6.95
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	1.99	1.99	0.00	0.00
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.25	4.25	0.00	0.00
Eggs	Doz	8.64	8.61	0.03	0.35
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	7.65	7.49	0.16	2.14
Sugar - Brown ( loose)	Lb.	1.42	1.54	-0.12	-7.79
Sugar - White ( loose)	Lb.	1.74	1.91	-0.17	-8.90
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.40	1.41	-0.01	-0.71
Flour - Packaged ( white)	2 kg	6.75	6.74	0.01	0.15
Flour - Packaged ( wholewheat)	2 kg	7.39	7.39	0.00	0.00
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.78	1.78	0.00	0.00
Rice - Package	2 kg	9.20	9.20	0.00	0.00
Bananas	Lb.	1.31	1.33	-0.02	-1.50
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.66	2.65	0.01	0.38
Eddoes	Lb.	2.58	1.66	0.92	55.42
Dasheens	Lb.	1.88	1.79	0.09	5.03
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.00	1.80	0.20	11.11
Oranges	Each	0.74	0.80	-0.06	-7.50
Tomatoes	Lb.	3.31	4.95	-1.64	-33.13
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	7.90	7.80	0.10	1.28
Vegetable Oil	1 Litre	10.54	10.54	0.00	0.00
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.58	10.41	0.17	1.63
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail ( not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.26	2.24	0.02	0.89
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.60	5.61	-0.01	-0.18

**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**FEBRUARY 2015 COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 2014**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		EC\$			
		FEBRUARY 2015	FEBRUARY 2014		
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO &amp; NARCOTICS</b>					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	29.02	29.02	0.00	0.00
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	4.48	4.51	-0.03	-0.67
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.46	3.47	-0.01	-0.29
Table wine ( local )	26 oz Bot.	18.58	18.08	0.50	2.77
<b>CLOTHING &amp; FOOTWEAR</b>					
Textile material - Terelyne	Yd.	47.95	47.95	0.00	0.00
Textile material - Linen	Yd.	17.95	17.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	69.95	69.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Jeans ( long) - size 30	Each	39.95	34.07	5.88	17.26
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	79.95	79.95	0.00	0.00
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	110.00	110.00	0.00	0.00
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit ( polyester) large	Each	100.00	100.55	-0.55	-0.55
Women's Blouse ( cotton/Spandex)	Each	25.00	24.65	0.35	1.42
<b>HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY GAS AND OTHER FUELS</b>					
Rent :					
Unfurnished House -2 Bedrooms	1Mth	546.43	546.43	0.00	0.00
Unfurnished House -3 Bedrooms	1Mth	612.50	612.50	0.00	0.00
Furnished Apartment - 2 Bedrooms	1Mth	791.67	791.67	0.00	0.00
Cement - Portland ( grey)	94 Lbs	24.90	24.75	0.15	0.61
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	1 Length	86.38	86.39	-0.01	-0.01
Oil Paint	1 Gal.	100.00	110.00	-10.00	-9.09
Lumber -Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	1 Length	68.07	67.10	0.97	1.45
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gals.	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.00
Kerosene	1 Gal.	12.40	13.93	-1.53	-10.98
Charcoal	1 Sack	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	31.25	44.56	-13.31	-29.87
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	114.37	137.66	-23.29	-16.92
<b>FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE</b>					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1,162.50	1,162.50	0.00	0.00
Double size sheets - coloured/cotton	Each	88.80	88.80	0.00	0.00
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	52.76	52.76	0.00	0.00
Laundry Soap	Each	1.14	1.10	0.04	3.64
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	5.87	5.50	0.37	6.73

**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**FEBRUARY 2015 COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 2014**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		FEBRUARY 2015	FEBRUARY 2014		
<b>HEALTH</b>					
Doctor's Fee - Gynaecologist	1 Visit	60.00	50.00	10.00	20.00
Eye Care	1 Test	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Hospitalisation (Private Ward)	1 Day	75.00	75.00	0.00	0.00
Drug for Hypertension	1 Mth supply	3.50	3.50	0.00	0.00
Drug for Diabetes	1 Mth supply	13.70	14.10	-0.40	-2.84
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.58	15.52	0.06	0.39
Dental Care	1 Visit	116.67	114.17	2.50	2.19
Chest X- ray	1 Test	120.00	110.00	10.00	9.09
<b>TRANSPORT</b>					
Petrol - Unleaded	1 Gal.	11.47	13.95	-2.48	-17.78
Vehicle License (car) - not exd. 2000 lbs	1 Year	470.00	470.00	0.00	0.00
Bus Fare - Mesopotamia	One Way	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00
Boat Fare - Bequia	One Way	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>					
Telephone Service - rental of line- domestic	1 Month	23.46	23.46	0.00	0.00
Telephone - Consumption Charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.00	0.00
Internet Charge	1 Month	101.70	101.70	0.00	0.00
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	1 Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to Mobile - domestic	1 Minute	0.80	0.73	0.07	9.59
<b>RECREATION AND CULTURE</b>					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	1,999.00	1,999.00	0.00	0.00
Cable TV Basic Charge	1 Month	74.75	74.75	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3,832.24	3,499.00	333.24	9.52
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2,071.45	1,891.32	180.13	9.52
Car Remote Control	Each	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	3.29	3.21	0.08	2.49
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	250.00	300.00	-50.00	-16.67



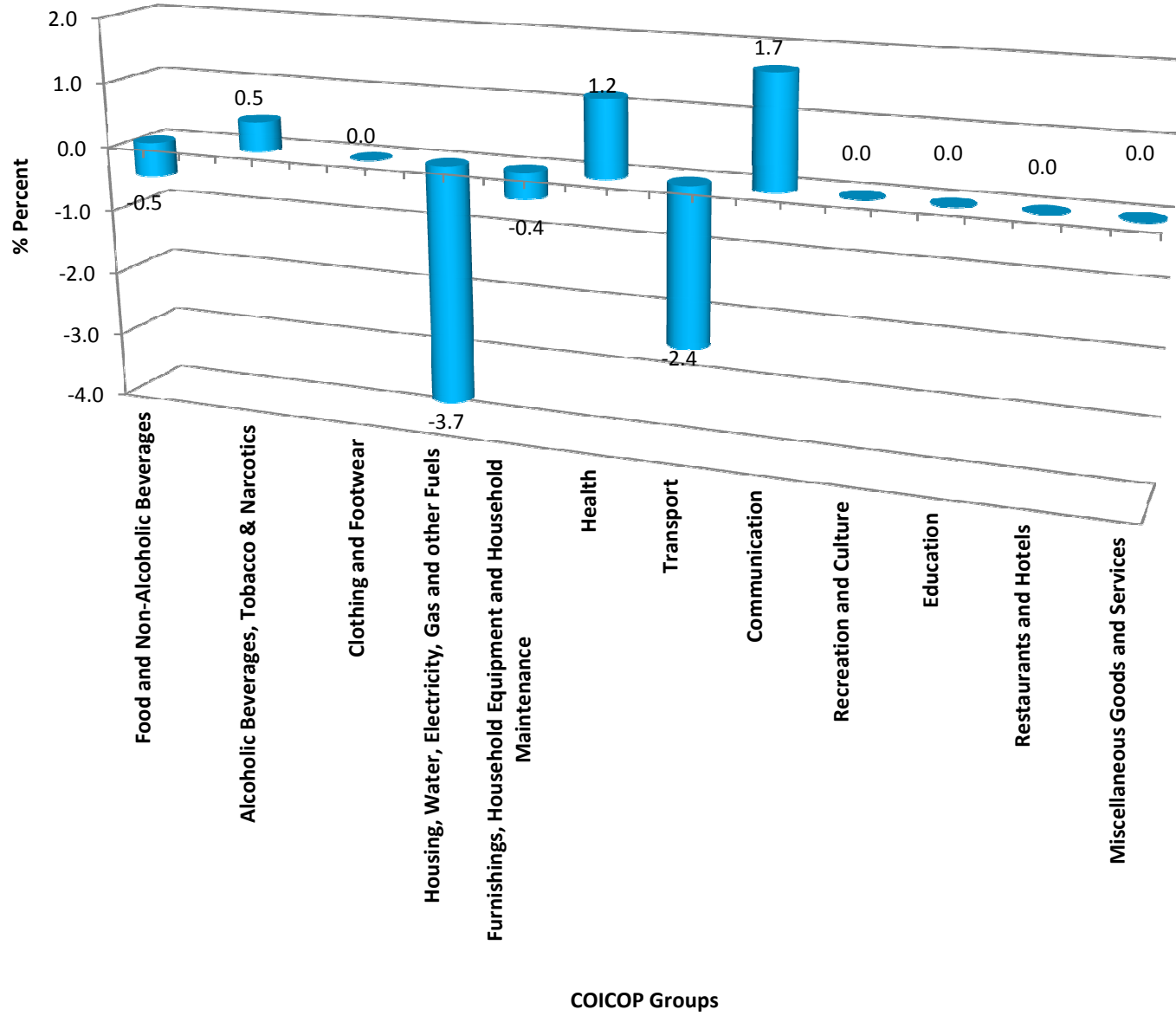
**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**FEBRUARY 2015 COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 2014**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		FEBRUARY 2015	FEBRUARY 2014		
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Pre-Primary - Private	1 Month	205.00	205.00	0.00	0.00
Primary School Fee - Private	1 Term	650.00	650.00	0.00	0.00
Secondary School Fee - Private	1 Term	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Newspaper - Local	Each	1.50	1.33	0.17	12.78
Exercise Book - Primary - 24 leaves	Each	0.85	0.85	0.00	0.00
Lead Pencils	Each	0.92	0.92	0.00	0.00
Mathematics Textbook - From 4	Each	80.16	74.60	5.56	7.45
Tuition for local evening classes	1 Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
<b>RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS</b>					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	13.86	13.86	0.00	0.00
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	15.10	15.10	0.00	0.00
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	16.85	16.85	0.00	0.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES</b>					
Toilet Soap	125g	3.46	3.46	0.00	0.00
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.17	9.03	0.14	1.55
Men's Haircut	1 Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Hairdressing ( Relaxer )	1 Visit	64.81	64.81	0.00	0.00
Disposable Diapers ( medium )	10 per Pk.	12.76	12.85	-0.09	-0.71
Health Insurance - Group (family)	≥3 Ppersons	307.00	278.70	28.30	9.22
Legal Expenses (Affidavit)	Fee	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00

**TABLE 3**  
**THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAIN GROUPS**  
**JANUARY 2010 = 100**

	GROUP	WEIGHT	JANUARY 2015	FEBRUARY 2015	FEBRUARY 2014	PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS:	
						MONTH JANUARY	YEAR FEBRUARY
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	112.9	112.3	112.7	-0.5	-0.4
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	109.1	109.6	109.1	0.5	0.5
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	102.8	102.8	105.5	0.0	-2.6
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	103.5	99.7	104.4	-3.7	-4.5
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	101.6	101.2	101.1	-0.4	0.1
06.	Health	1.79	102.8	104.0	103.4	1.2	0.6
07.	Transport	11.84	124.5	121.5	122.8	-2.4	-1.1
08.	Communication	9.41	100.3	102.0	96.5	1.7	5.7
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	102.6	102.6	102.9	0.0	-0.3
10.	Education	1.32	109.0	109.0	109.3	0.0	-0.3
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	103.3	103.3	103.0	0.0	0.3
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	101.0	101.0	100.7	0.0	0.3
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	107.5	106.0	107.2	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>-1.1</b>

Chart 1: COICOP Groups Percentage Change for February 2015



**TABLE 4**  
**THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAIN GROUPS**  
**JANUARY 2010 = 100**  
**CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE**

	GROUP	WEIGHT	JANUARY 2015	FEBRUARY 2015	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	Contribution to Change %
						JANUARY 2015	FEBRUARY 2015		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	112.9	112.3	-0.5	2,473.64	2,460.49	-13.1	8.8
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	109.1	109.6	0.5	422.22	424.15	1.9	-1.3
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	102.8	102.8	0.0	331.02	331.02	0.0	0.0
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	103.5	99.7	-3.7	3,111.21	2,996.98	-114.2	76.2
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	101.6	101.2	-0.4	669.54	666.91	-2.6	1.8
6.	Health	1.79	102.8	104.0	1.2	184.01	186.16	2.1	-1.4
7.	Transport	11.84	124.5	121.5	-2.4	1,474.08	1,438.56	-35.5	23.7
8.	Communication	9.41	100.3	102.0	1.7	943.82	959.82	16.0	-10.7
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	102.6	102.6	0.0	390.91	390.91	0.0	0.0
10.	Education	1.32	109.0	109.0	0.0	143.88	143.88	0.0	0.0
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	103.3	103.3	0.0	193.17	193.17	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	101.0	101.0	0.0	435.31	435.31	0.0	0.0
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	107.5	106.0	-1.4	10,750.00	10,600.00	-150.0	100.0

**TABLE 5**  
**MONTHLY INDEX - 2015**  
**JANUARY 2010 = 100**

GROUP	ALL ITEMS	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco & Narcotics	Clothing & Footwear	Housing Water Electricity Gas and Fuels	Furnishings Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	Health	Transport	Communication	Recreation and Culture	Education	Restaurants and Hotels	Miscellaneous Goods and Services
WEIGHT	100.00	21.91	3.87	3.22	30.06	6.59	1.79	11.84	9.41	3.81	1.32	1.87	4.31
MONTH													
January	107.5	112.9	109.1	102.8	103.5	101.6	102.8	124.5	100.3	102.6	109.0	103.3	101.0
February	106.0	112.3	109.6	102.8	99.7	101.2	104.0	121.5	102.0	102.6	109.0	103.3	101.0