



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



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FEBRUARY 2017

The consumer price index recorded a decline of 0.3 percent for the month of February 2017. The “All Items” index was registered at 106.4 for the month of February 2017 compared to 106.7 for the month of January 2017. The “point-to-point” inflation rate stood at 1.7 percent.

Five (5) groups recorded decreases during the month: “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.7 percent), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.5 percent), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.3 percent), “Health” (0.3 percent) and “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.2 percent). Three (3) groups recorded increases during the month: “Transport” (0.7 percent), “Clothing and Footwear” (0.1 percent) and “Recreation and Culture” (0.1 percent). Four (4) groups remained unchanged “Communication”, “Education”, “Restaurants and Hotels” and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services”.

The group index for “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” decreased by 0.7 percent due to lower prices for cement (7.1 percent) and electricity (4.2 percent).

The 0.5 percent decline in the index for “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” is due mainly to a decrease in the price of several food items which includes: green pigeon peas (22.4 percent), chicken legs (12.1 percent), cornflakes (11.9 percent), tomatoes (10.5 percent), pig feet (8.5 percent), carrots (8.0 percent), eddoes (7.5 percent), eggs (6.7 percent), cucumbers (6.1 percent) and christophene (4.4 percent).

The “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” index decreased by 0.3 percent due to a decrease of 3.0 percent in the price of an imported beer and 1.3 percent in the price of local beer.

The 0.3 percent decline in the index for “Health” is due to a reduction of 25.0 percent in the cost of a drug that is used for the treatment of cancer, whereas, the 0.2 percent decrease in the group index for “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” was as a result of a 14.3 percent decline in the price of a pack of matches (11.5 percent) and a 3-piece upholstered living room suite (11.5 percent).

Higher prices for passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to Trinidad and Tobago (33.7 percent) is responsible for the 0.7 percent increase in the “transport” index. Similarly, the index for “Clothing and Footwear” grew by 0.1 percent as a result of a 12.5 percent increase in the price of khaki material.

Meanwhile, the “Recreation and Culture” index increased by 0.1 percent due mainly to a 4.6 percent increase in the price of a mathematics textbook.

Table 1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average Price ECS		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2017	January 2017		
INCREASED					
Pig tail (fresh)	Lb	5.26	4.99	0.27	5.41
Canned tomatoes	14.5oz	4.15	3.80	0.35	9.21
Pepper sauce	155ml bottle	9.95	6.51	3.44	52.84
Cinnamon	Lb	29.40	27.78	1.62	5.83
Yeast	1/4Lb pkt	4.24	3.89	0.35	9.00
Men's pants material (khaki)	1 yard	17.95	15.95	2.00	12.54
French door	each	380.21	345.00	35.21	10.21
Galvanize (10ft)	1 length	91.60	86.62	4.98	5.75
Cigarettes	pkt of 20	6.99	5.83	1.16	19.90
Passenger airfare from St. Vincent & the Grenadines to Trinidad and Tobago	1-way	449.55	336.15	113.40	33.73
Mathematics textbook	each	79.72	76.19	3.53	4.63
DECREASED					
Cornflakes	18oz box	9.65	10.95	-1.30	-11.87
Pig feet	Lb	3.55	3.88	-0.33	-8.51
Chicken legs	Lb	2.97	3.38	-0.41	-12.13
Eggs	1 dozen	8.68	9.30	-0.62	-6.67
Christophene	Lb	3.44	3.60	-0.16	-4.44
Green pigeon peas	Lb	8.23	10.60	-2.37	-22.36
Eddoes	Lb	2.47	2.67	-0.20	-7.49
Tomatoes	Lb	5.18	5.79	-0.61	-10.54
Carrots	Lb	3.32	3.61	-0.29	-8.03
Cucumbers	Lb	3.24	3.45	-0.21	-6.09
Local beer	280ml	4.47	4.53	-0.06	-1.32
Imported beer	250ml	5.24	5.40	-0.16	-2.96
Cement	94Lbs	21.52	23.16	-1.64	-7.08
Electricity	140Kwh	108.22	112.99	-4.77	-4.22
Living room suite (3-piece upholstered)	1 set	4584.23	5176.78	-592.55	-11.45
Cancer drugs	1 mth's supply	18.00	24.00	-6.00	-25.00
Passenger airfare from St Vincent & the Grenadines to St Lucia	1-way	336.47	379.00	-42.53	-11.22

Table 2.1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2016 Compared With February 2015

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average ECS		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2017	February 2016		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.49	6.06	0.43	7.10
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.62	2.12	0.50	23.58
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.57	1.61	-0.04	-2.48
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.66	4.72	-0.06	-1.27
Turkey Wings	Lb.	2.55	3.19	-0.64	-20.06
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Robins)	Lb.	4.00	5.00	-1.00	-20.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	5.46	5.29	0.17	3.21
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.03	7.75	0.28	3.61
Codfish	Lb.	14.51	14.80	-0.29	-1.96
Cornflakes	12 oz	13.28	12.98	0.30	2.31
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.61	4.62	-0.01	-0.22
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.07	3.08	-0.01	-0.32
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	3.29	3.29	0.00	0.00
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	2.02	1.99	0.03	1.51
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.25	4.25	0.00	0.00
Eggs	Doz	8.68	9.10	-0.42	-4.62
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	8.93	8.41	0.52	6.18
Sugar - Brown (loose)	Lb.	1.56	1.35	0.21	15.56
Sugar - White (loose)	Lb.	2.02	1.68	0.34	20.24
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.36	1.40	-0.04	-2.86
Flour - Packaged (white)	2 kg	6.75	6.75	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2 kg	7.29	7.39	-0.10	-1.35
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.95	1.78	0.17	9.55
Rice - Package	2 kg	10.46	9.14	1.32	14.44
Bananas	Lb.	1.34	1.34	0.00	0.00
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.56	2.66	-0.10	-3.76
Eddoes	Lb.	2.46	2.78	-0.32	-11.51
Dasheens	Lb.	1.81	2.18	-0.37	-16.97
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.14	2.07	0.07	3.38
Oranges	Each	0.74	0.81	-0.07	-8.64
Tomatoes	Lb.	5.18	5.15	0.03	0.58
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	8.93	7.85	1.08	13.76
Vegetable Oil	Litre	12.42	10.73	1.69	15.75
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.68	10.66	0.02	0.19
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail (not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.53	2.31	0.22	9.52
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.64	5.64	0.00	0.00

Table 2.2
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2016 Compared With February 2015

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average ECS		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2017	February 2016		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	29.71	29.02	0.69	2.38
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	4.47	4.61	-0.14	-3.04
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	4.12	3.91	0.21	5.37
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	20.78	18.79	1.99	10.59
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR					
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	49.95	49.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	79.79	79.79	0.00	0.00
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	89.77	89.77	0.00	0.00
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit (polyester) large	Each	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Blouse (cotton/Spandex)	Each	29.95	29.95	0.00	0.00
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY GAS AND OTHER FUELS					
Rent :					
Unfurnished House -2 Bedrooms	Month	567.86	567.86	0.00	0.00
Unfurnished House -3 Bedrooms	Month	612.50	612.50	0.00	0.00
Furnished Apartment - 2 Bedrooms	Month	791.67	791.67	0.00	0.00
Cement - Portland (grey)	94 Lbs	21.52	24.90	-3.38	-13.57
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	Length	91.60	86.62	4.98	5.75
Oil Paint	Gallon	95.00	105.00	-10.00	-9.52
Lumber -Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	Length	68.97	68.30	0.67	0.98
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gallons	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.00
Kerosene	Gallon	6.61	8.33	-1.72	-20.65
Charcoal	Sack	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	34.00	31.25	2.75	8.80
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	108.22	95.87	12.35	12.88
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1,162.50	1,162.50	0.00	0.00
Double size sheets - coloured/cotton	Each	105.00	125.00	-20.00	-16.00
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	52.76	52.76	0.00	0.00
Laundry Soap	Each	1.18	1.16	0.02	1.72
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	6.34	5.96	0.38	6.38

Table 2.3
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2016 Compared With February 2015

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average ECS		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2017	February 2016		
HEALTH					
Doctor's Fee - Gynaecologist	Visit	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
Eye Care	Test	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Hospitalisation (Private Ward)	Day	75.00	75.00	0.00	0.00
Drug for Hypertension	Month supply	3.50	3.50	0.00	0.00
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	12.26	13.47	-1.21	-8.98
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.09	15.35	-0.26	-1.69
Dental Care	Visit	123.33	123.33	0.00	0.00
Chest X- ray	Test	120.00	120.00	0.00	0.00
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	10.66	10.30	0.36	3.50
Vehicle License (car) - not exd. 2000 lbs	Year	590.00	470.00	120.00	25.53
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
COMMUNICATION					
Telephone Service - rental of line- domestic	Month	23.46	23.46	0.00	0.00
Telephone - Consumption Charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.00	0.00
Internet Charge	Month	101.70	101.70	0.00	0.00
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to Mobile - domestic	Minute	0.91	0.78	0.13	16.67
RECREATION AND CULTURE					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	1,993.82	1,989.25	4.57	0.23
Cable TV Basic Charge	Month	74.75	74.75	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3,832.40	3,813.54	18.86	0.49
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2,071.53	2,061.34	10.19	0.49
Car Remote Control	Each	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	3.66	3.37	0.29	8.61
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	325.00	275.00	50.00	18.18

Table 2.4
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2016 Compared With February 2015

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average ECS		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2017	February 2016		
EDUCATION					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	215.00	205.00	10.00	4.88
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	825.00	825.00	0.00	0.00
Secondary School Fee - Private	Term	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Newspaper - Local	Each	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00
Exercise Book - Primary - 24 leaves	Each	0.78	0.86	-0.08	-9.30
Lead Pencils	Each	0.86	0.87	-0.01	-1.15
Mathematics Textbook - From 4	Each	79.72	79.72	0.00	0.00
Tuition for local evening classes	Per Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	13.86	13.86	0.00	0.00
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	13.86	13.86	0.00	0.00
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	16.85	16.85	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES					
Toilet Soap	125g	3.53	3.50	0.03	0.86
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.04	9.06	-0.02	-0.22
Men's Haircut	Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Hairdressing (Relaxer)	Visit	64.81	64.81	0.00	0.00
Disposable Diapers (medium)	10 per Pk.	12.92	12.81	0.11	0.85
Health Insurance - Group (family)	≥3 Persons	307.00	307.00	0.00	0.00
Legal Expenses (Affidavit)	Fee	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00

Table 3
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100

	Groups	Weight	January 2017	February 2017	February 2016	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month January	Year February
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	112.1	111.5	109.6	-0.5	1.7
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	116.8	116.5	112.5	-0.3	3.6
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.8	104.9	104.5	0.1	0.4
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	99.5	98.8	96.7	-0.7	2.2
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	103.1	102.9	102.2	-0.2	0.7
06.	Health	1.79	107.6	107.3	108.0	-0.3	-0.6
07.	Transport	11.84	118.7	119.5	115.9	0.7	3.1
08.	Communication	9.41	106.8	106.8	106.3	0.0	0.5
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	103.9	104.0	103.1	0.1	0.9
10.	Education	1.32	109.3	109.3	108.5	0.0	0.7
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	102.7	102.7	102.4	0.0	0.3
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	101.5	101.5	101.3	0.0	0.2
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	106.7	106.4	104.6	-0.3	1.7

Chart 1: COICOP Groups Percentage Change for February 2017

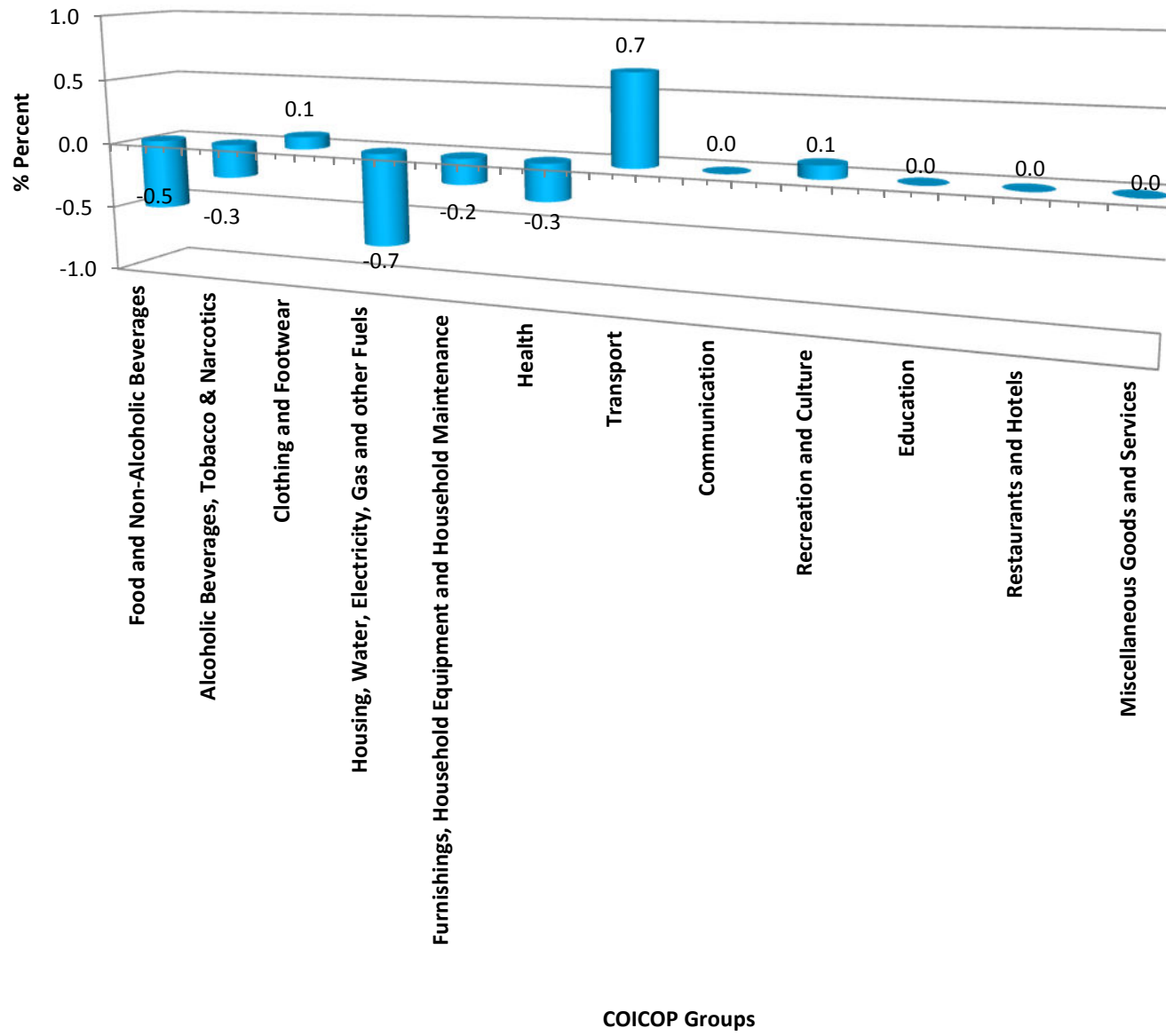


TABLE 4
THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAIN GROUPS
JANUARY 2010 = 100
CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE

	Groups	Weight	January 2017	February 2017	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	Contribution to Change %
						January 2017	February 2017		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	112.1	111.5	-0.5	2,456.11	2,442.97	-13.1	43.8
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	116.8	116.5	-0.3	452.02	450.86	-1.2	3.9
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.8	104.9	0.1	337.46	337.78	0.3	-1.1
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	99.5	98.8	-0.7	2,990.97	2,969.93	-21.0	70.1
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	103.1	102.9	-0.2	679.43	678.11	-1.3	4.4
6.	Health	1.79	107.6	107.3	-0.3	192.60	192.07	-0.5	1.8
7.	Transport	11.84	118.7	119.5	0.7	1,405.41	1,414.88	9.5	-31.6
8.	Communication	9.41	106.8	106.8	0.0	1,004.99	1,004.99	0.0	0.0
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	103.9	104.0	0.1	395.86	396.24	0.4	-1.3
10.	Education	1.32	109.3	109.3	0.0	144.28	144.28	0.0	0.0
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	102.7	102.7	0.0	192.05	192.05	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	101.5	101.5	0.0	437.47	437.47	0.0	0.0
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	106.7	106.4	-0.3	10,670.00	10,640.00	-30.0	100.0

Table 5
Monthly Index - 2017
January 2010 = 100

Groups	All Items	Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco & Narcotics	Clothing & Footwear	Housing Water Electricity Gas and Fuels	Furnishings Household Equipment & Household Maintenance	Health	Transport	Communi-cation	Recreation & Culture	Education	Restaurants & Hotels	Miscell-aneous 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	106.7	112.1	116.8	104.8	99.5	103.1	107.6	118.7	106.8	103.9	109.3	102.7	101.5
February	106.4	111.5	116.5	104.9	98.8	102.9	107.3	119.5	106.8	104.0	109.3	102.7	101.5