



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



**THE STATISTICAL OFFICE
CENTRAL PLANNING DIVISION
MINISTRY OF FINANCE & PLANNING
ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

Tel: 784 457 2921, 456 1111 Ext 592/377,

Fax: 784 456 2430,

Email: svg.stats@mail.gov.vc

Website: <http://www.stats.gov.vc>

Vol. 5 No.10

October 2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
Analysis –	1
Table No.	
1 Average Retail Price of Selected Items	3
2 Average Retail Price of Selected Items OCTOBER 2015 compared With OCTOBER 2014	4
3 The Consumer Price Index by main groups	8
4 The Consumer Price Index contribution to change by Groups	10
5 Monthly Items by Group	11
Chart No.	
1 COICOP Percentage Change for the Month of OCTOBER 2015	9

* * *

OCTOBER 2015

The consumer price index registered a decline of 0.4 percent for the month of October. The “All Items” index was registered at 105.4 for the month of October in comparison to 105.8 for the month of September. The “point to point” inflation rate was recorded as negative 2.0 percent.

Four (4) groups recorded increases during the month: “Health”, (1.8 percent), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.5 percent), “Communication”, (0.1 percent) and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.1 percent). Four (4) groups recorded decreases during the month: “Transport” (2.1 percent), “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels” (0.5 percent), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.3 percent) and “Furnishings, Household Equipment & Household Maintenance” (0.2 percent). Four (4) groups remained unchanged, “Education”, “Restaurants and Hotels”, “Clothing and Footwear” and “Recreation and Culture”.

The 1.8 percent increase in the “Health” group index is due to increases in the cost of cancer drugs and general doctors’ consultation fee which grew by (44.4 percent) and (16.7 percent) respectively.

The “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” index grew by 0.8 percent as a result of increases in the prices for imported cigarettes (11.4 percent) and stout 1.5 percent.

The 2.6 percent increase in the price for mobile to mobile international cellular phones calls, led to the 0.1 percent increase in the “Communications” index.

Similarly, the “Miscellaneous Goods & Services” group index showed a 0.1 percent increase as a consequence of a higher price for women’s hairdressing (8.0 percent).

The “Transport” index registered a significant decline of 2.1 percent due to decreases in the prices of diesel (3.8 percent), petrol (2.6 percent) and passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to St. Lucia (55.1 percent) and New York (12.0 percent).

Lower costs for kerosene oil (9.1 percent) and electricity (2.4 percent), contributed to the 0.5 percent decline in the “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” index.

Correspondingly, the “Food and Non- Alcoholic Beverages” group index recorded a decline of 0.3 percent due to decreases in the prices for several food items such as: cabbage (14.8 percent), yams (10.6 percent), chicken-whole legs (7.3 percent), sweet peppers (6.7 percent), carrots (5.8 percent), orange juice (2.9 percent), whole chicken (2.1 percent) and flavoured drink mix (1.0 percent).

Meanwhile, the 0.2 percent decrease in the “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” index is due to lower prices for paper towels (12.0 percent) and alkaline batteries (7.9 percent).

TABLE 1
AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		EC\$			
		OCTOBER 2015	SEPTEMBER 2015		
INCREASED					
Cheddar Cheese	Lb	16.10	15.76	0.34	2.16
Eggs	1 Doz	9.37	8.82	0.55	6.24
Crackers - salted Whole wheat	5oz Pk	3.91	3.38	0.53	15.68
Cream of Wheat	14oz Pk	10.38	9.63	0.75	7.79
Green Pigeon Peas	15oz Tin	6.20	6.06	0.14	2.31
Cream cheese	8oz Tub	8.75	8.52	0.23	2.70
Vegetable Oil	1 Litre	10.76	10.61	0.15	1.41
Pineapple	Lb	5.28	5.04	0.24	4.76
Tomatoes	Lb	5.14	5.05	0.09	1.78
Callaloo leaves	Lb	3.45	3.19	0.26	8.15
Broccoli	Lb	10.22	9.76	0.46	4.71
Stout	275ml Bot	5.52	5.44	0.08	1.47
Cigarettes -imported	Pkt 20	8.18	7.34	0.84	11.44
Cancer drugs	1 month's supply	19.50	13.50	6.00	44.44
Doctor's Fee - General	1 Visit	35.00	30.00	5.00	16.67
Mobile to mobile - International	1 minute	1.58	1.54	0.04	2.60
Women's Hairdressing (Treatment)	1 Visit	41.83	38.73	3.10	8.00
DECREASED					
Yams	Lb	3.04	3.40	-0.36	-10.59
Sweet Peppers	Lb	6.54	7.01	-0.47	-6.70
Cabbage	Lb	3.12	3.66	-0.54	-14.75
Carrots	Lb	3.82	3.61	0.21	5.82
Whole chicken	Lb	6.12	6.25	-0.13	-2.08
Chicken -Whole legs	Lb	2.79	3.01	-0.22	-7.31
Orange Juice	1 Litre	6.29	6.48	-0.19	-2.93
Flavoured drink mix	19oz Bot	12.47	12.59	-0.12	-0.95
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	108.02	110.63	-2.61	-2.36
Kerosene Oil	1 Gal	9.62	10.58	-0.96	-9.07
Alkaline Battery- (AA)	2Pk	6.74	7.32	-0.58	-7.92
Paper Towels (60 sheets)	Each	5.06	5.75	-0.69	-12.00
Petrol - Unleaded	1 Gal	12.43	12.76	-0.33	-2.59
Spark Plugs -standard size	Each	12.49	13.66	-1.17	-8.57
Diesel	1 Gal	9.60	9.98	-0.38	-3.81
Passenger airfare					
St Vincent - St.Lucia	One way	212.27	473.09	-260.82	-55.13
St Vincent - Trinidad	One way	513.54	459.66	53.88	11.72
St Vincent - New York	One month	2849.90	3238.40	-388.50	-12.00

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

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		OCTOBER 2015	OCTOBER 2014		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.12	6.09	0.03	0.49
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.18	2.87	-0.69	-24.04
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.57	1.66	-0.09	-5.42
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.78	4.96	-0.18	-3.63
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.42	3.75	-0.33	-8.80
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	4.00	5.00	-1.00	-20.00
Fish - Fresh (Robins)	Lb.	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	5.28	5.25	0.03	0.57
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	7.74	7.58	0.16	2.11
Codfish	Lb.	14.99	14.63	0.36	2.46
Cornflakes	12 oz	12.78	12.48	0.30	2.40
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.61	4.18	0.43	10.29
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.35	3.31	0.04	1.21
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	3.29	3.54	-0.25	-7.06
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	9.37	8.64	0.73	8.45
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	8.15	7.89	0.26	3.30
Sugar - Brown (loose)	Lb.	1.35	1.42	-0.07	-4.93
Sugar - White (loose)	Lb.	1.73	1.74	-0.01	-0.57
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.39	1.40	-0.01	-0.71
Flour - Packaged (white)	2 kg	6.75	6.75	0.00	0.00
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	9.22	9.20	0.02	0.22
Bananas	Lb.	1.34	1.30	0.04	3.08
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.66	2.49	0.17	6.83
Eddoes	Lb.	3.01	2.79	0.22	7.89
Dasheens	Lb.	2.11	2.29	-0.18	-7.86
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	1.91	2.65	-0.74	-27.92
Oranges	Each	0.79	0.81	-0.02	-2.47
Tomatoes	Lb.	5.14	3.94	1.20	30.46
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	7.85	7.90	-0.05	-0.63
Vegetable Oil	1 Litre	10.76	10.52	0.24	2.28
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.59	10.46	0.13	1.24
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail (not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.26	2.26	0.00	0.00
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.61	5.60	0.01	0.18

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

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE ECS		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		OCTOBER 2015	OCTOBER 2014		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	29.02	29.02	0.00	0.00
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	4.51	4.49	0.02	0.45
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.71	3.47	0.24	6.92
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	18.79	18.52	0.27	1.46
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	39.95	39.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	79.95	79.95	0.00	0.00
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	89.95	110.00	-20.05	-18.23
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit (polyester) large	Each	100.00	101.89	-1.89	-1.85
Women's Blouse (cotton/Spandex)	Each	24.00	25.00	-1.00	-4.00
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY GAS AND OTHER FUELS					
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	24.90	0.00	0.00
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	1 Length	86.38	86.38	0.00	0.00
Oil Paint	1 Gal.	105.00	110.00	-5.00	-4.55
Lumber -Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	1 Length	68.32	67.61	0.71	1.05
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gals.	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.00
Kerosene	1 Gal.	9.62	13.93	-4.31	-30.94
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	108.02	142.87	-34.85	-24.39
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	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	1.16	1.10	0.06	5.45
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	5.86	5.62	0.24	4.27

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

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		OCTOBER 2015	OCTOBER 2014		
HEALTH					
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	13.16	13.70	-0.54	-3.94
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.58	15.57	0.01	0.06
Dental Care	1 Visit	123.33	116.67	6.66	5.71
Chest X- ray	1 Test	120.00	120.00	0.00	0.00
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	1 Gal.	12.43	14.88	-2.45	-16.47
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
COMMUNICATION					
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	0.83	0.73	0.10	13.70
RECREATION AND CULTURE					
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	3.37	3.12	0.25	8.01
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	275.00	300.00	-25.00	-8.33

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

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		OCTOBER 2015	OCTOBER 2014		
EDUCATION					
Pre-Primary - Private	1 Month	205.00	205.00	0.00	0.00
Primary School Fee - Private	1 Term	825.00	650.00	175.00	26.92
Secondary School Fee - Private	1 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	0.86	0.84	0.02	2.38
Lead Pencils	Each	0.91	0.91	0.00	0.00
Mathematics Textbook - From 4	Each	77.66	80.16	-2.50	-3.12
Tuition for local evening classes	1 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	15.10	15.10	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	3.46	3.42	0.04	1.17
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.16	9.17	-0.01	-0.11
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.	12.77	12.79	-0.02	-0.16
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	SEPTEMBER 2015	OCTOBER 2015	OCTOBER 2014	PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS:	
						MONTH SEPTEMBER	YEAR OCTOBER
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	110.4	110.1	113.3	-0.3	-2.8
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	110.5	111.0	109.8	0.5	1.1
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	102.5	102.5	102.7	0.0	-0.2
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	98.8	98.3	104.9	-0.5	-6.3
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	101.4	101.2	101.3	-0.2	-0.1
06.	Health	1.79	107.0	108.9	103.1	1.8	5.6
07.	Transport	11.84	120.8	118.3	124.7	-2.1	-5.1
08.	Communication	9.41	106.2	106.3	96.5	0.1	10.2
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	102.5	102.5	102.1	0.0	0.4
10.	Education	1.32	110.2	110.2	109.0	0.0	1.1
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	103.5	103.5	103.5	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	101.1	101.2	101.1	0.1	0.1
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	105.8	105.4	107.6	-0.4	-2.0

Chart 1: COICOP Groups Percentage Change for October 2015

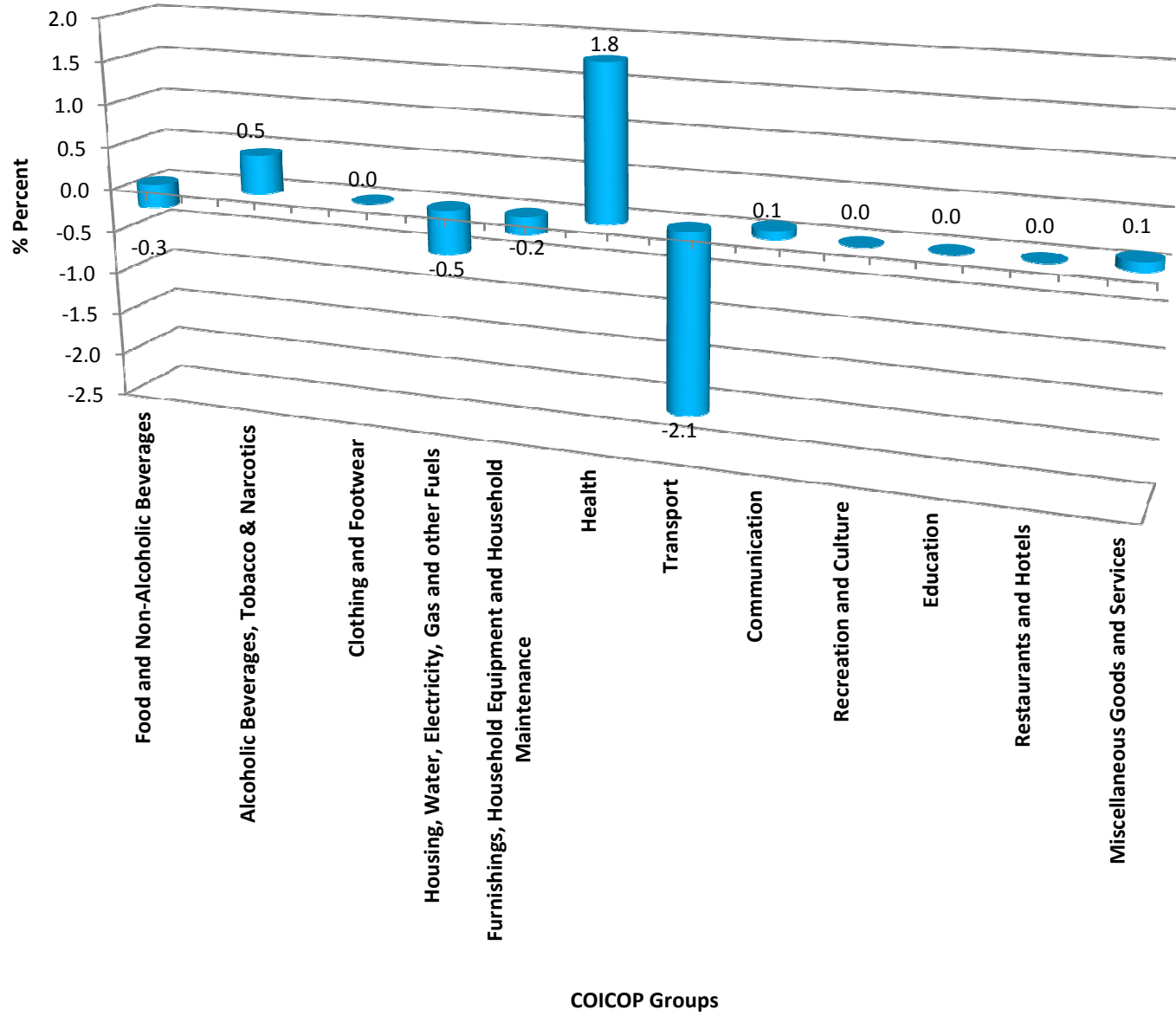


TABLE 4
THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAIN GROUPS
JANUARY 2010 = 100
CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE

	GROUPS	WEIGHT	SEPTEMBER 2015	OCTOBER 2015	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	Contribution to Change %
						SEPTEMBER 2015	OCTOBER 2015		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	110.4	110.1	-0.3	2,418.86	2,412.29	-6.6	16.4
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	110.5	111.0	0.5	427.64	429.57	1.9	-4.8
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	102.5	102.5	0.0	330.05	330.05	0.0	0.0
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	98.8	98.3	-0.5	2,969.93	2,954.90	-15.0	37.6
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	101.4	101.2	-0.2	668.23	666.91	-1.3	3.3
6.	Health	1.79	107.0	108.9	1.8	191.53	194.93	3.4	-8.5
7.	Transport	11.84	120.8	118.3	-2.1	1,430.27	1,400.67	-29.6	74.0
8.	Communication	9.41	106.2	106.3	0.1	999.34	1,000.28	0.9	-2.4
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	102.5	102.5	0.0	390.53	390.53	0.0	0.0
10.	Education	1.32	110.2	110.2	0.0	145.46	145.46	0.0	0.0
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	103.5	103.5	0.0	193.55	193.55	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	101.1	101.2	0.1	435.74	436.17	0.4	-1.1
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	105.8	105.4	-0.4	10,580.00	10,540.00	-40.0	100.0

TABLE 5
MONTHLY INDEX - 2015
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	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
March	105.5	111.9	109.6	102.8	98.8	101.3	104.0	119.9	102.0	102.6	109.0	103.3	101.1
April	105.6	110.6	109.3	102.8	100.0	101.6	105.0	119.5	102.0	102.6	109.0	103.3	101.1
May	105.4	110.3	109.5	102.8	99.5	101.8	105.0	120.4	100.8	102.4	109.0	103.2	101.0
June	105.5	110.5	110.1	102.8	99.8	101.3	105.0	119.8	100.8	102.3	109.0	103.2	101.1
July	106.3	111.0	110.4	102.7	100.2	101.4	107.0	122.1	104.8	102.4	109.0	103.2	101.1
August	106.3	110.3	110.4	102.6	99.8	101.3	107.0	123.1	106.2	102.5	109.0	103.2	101.0
September	105.80	110.4	110.5	102.5	98.8	101.4	107.0	120.8	106.2	102.5	110.2	103.5	101.1
October	105.4	110.1	111.0	102.5	98.3	101.2	108.9	118.3	106.3	102.5	110.2	103.5	101.2