



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



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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 APRIL 2015 compared with APRIL 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 APRIL 2015	9

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APRIL 2015

The Consumer Price Index registered an increase of 0.1 percent for the month of April 2015. The “All Items” index was recorded at 105.6 for the month of April in comparison to 105.5 for the month of March 2015. The “point-to-point” inflation rate was recorded as negative 2.2 percent.

Three (3) groups recorded increases during the month: “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (1.2 percent), “Health” (1.0 percent) and “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.3 percent). Three (3) groups recorded decreases during the month: “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (1.2 percent), “Transport” (0.3 percent) and “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (0.3 percent). Six (6) groups remained unchanged, “Clothing and Footwear”, “Recreation and Culture”, “Restaurants and Hotels”, “Communication” “Education” and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services”.

The group index for “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” increased by 1.2 percent as a result of an increase in the cost of electricity. This increase resulted from a higher fuel surcharge rate which moved from 28.63 cents per kilowatt hour in March 2015 to 34.47 cents per kilowatt hour in April 2015.

The “Health” group index registered an increase of 1.0 percent due to an increase in the cost of a number of dental services such as: extraction (10.5 percent), cleaning (4.0 percent) and filling (3.8 percent).

Similarly, the increase in the index for the group “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” was attributed to a 10.0 percent increase in the cost of a refrigerator.

The 1.2 percent decline in the index for “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” was due to decreases in the price of several food items namely: pumpkins (15.9 percent), watermelon (13.9 percent), christophene (11.1 percent), cabbage (9.1 percent), chicken –drumsticks (7.1 percent), mild cheddar cheese (7.4 percent), powdered milk –full cream (4.3 percent) and brown sugar (1.4 percent).

The 0.3 percent decline in the “Transport” index was attributed to a fall off in the price of a few items such as: airfare from St Vincent and the Grenadines to Toronto (19.4 percent), to Barbados (8.5 percent), jeep tyres (5.8 percent) and pick-up tyres (5.5 percent)

Meanwhile, the index for the group “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” fell by 0.3 percent due to a 2.3 percent decrease in the cost of imported beer.

TABLE 1
AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS

ITEM	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		EC\$			
		APRIL 2015	MARCH 2015		
INCREASED					
Turkey bacon	12oz Pk	12.70	11.88	0.82	6.90
Currants	Lb	11.47	10.79	0.68	6.30
Pig-tail fresh	Lb	5.22	5.15	0.07	1.36
Electricity consumption charge	140KWH	118.26	110.08	8.18	7.43
Tomatoes	Lb	3.36	2.85	0.51	17.89
Oranges	Each	0.79	0.74	0.05	6.76
Dried Pigeon Peas	Lb	7.15	6.68	0.47	7.04
Margarine	445g tub	8.52	8.07	0.45	5.58
Sliced cheese	12oz Pk	6.15	6.07	0.08	1.32
Refridgerator - 9cuft	Each	2206.75	2006.95	199.80	9.96
Dental service - Extraction	1 Visit	105.00	95.00	10.00	10.53
Dental service - Cleaning	1 Visit	130.00	125.00	5.00	4.00
Dental service - Filling	1 Visit	135.00	130.00	5.00	3.85
Petrol - unleaded	1 Gal	10.84	10.56	0.28	2.65
DECREASED					
Powdered milk - Skimmed	Lb	7.23	10.22	-2.99	-29.26
Powdered milk - Full cream	Lb	8.16	8.53	-0.37	-4.34
Mild cheddar	Lb	13.05	14.10	-1.05	-7.45
Chicken - Drumsticks	Lb	3.03	3.26	-0.23	-7.06
Chicken - Leg quarters	Lb	2.68	2.79	-0.11	-3.94
Turkey wings	Lb	3.48	3.64	-0.16	-4.40
Watermelon	Lb	2.97	3.45	-0.48	-13.91
Cabbage	Lb	2.79	3.07	-0.28	-9.12
Christophene	Lb	3.03	3.41	-0.38	-11.14
Pumpkins	Lb	1.80	2.14	-0.34	-15.89
Sugar - Brown (loose)	Lb	1.40	1.42	-0.02	-1.41
Beer - imported	250ml Bot	5.18	5.30	-0.12	-2.26
Drugs for diabetes	1 month supply	21.11	22.19	-1.08	-4.87
Passenger air transport					
St.Vincent to Toronto	1 month	4019.30	4988.80	-969.50	-19.43
St.Vincent to Barbados	one way	357.75	391.00	-33.25	-8.50
Jeep tyres - used	Each	85.00	90.19	-5.19	-5.75
Pick-up tyres - used	Each	90.00	95.20	-5.20	-5.46

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

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		APRIL 2015	APRIL 2014		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.20	6.24	-0.04	-0.64
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.68	2.89	-0.21	-7.27
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.66	1.65	0.01	0.61
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.73	4.88	-0.15	-3.07
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.48	3.49	-0.01	-0.29
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	4.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	5.34	5.35	-0.01	-0.19
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	7.59	7.74	-0.15	-1.94
Codfish	Lb.	14.99	14.17	0.82	5.79
Cornflakes	12 oz	12.79	12.26	0.53	4.32
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.51	4.15	0.36	8.67
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.39	3.24	0.15	4.63
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	3.54	3.54	0.00	0.00
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	8.64	0.00	0.00
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	7.93	7.48	0.45	6.02
Sugar - Brown (loose)	Lb.	1.40	1.54	-0.14	-9.09
Sugar - White (loose)	Lb.	1.72	1.83	-0.11	-6.01
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.40	1.41	-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	9.20	9.20	0.00	0.00
Bananas	Lb.	1.31	1.31	0.00	0.00
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.66	2.69	-0.03	-1.12
Eddoes	Lb.	2.57	1.49	1.08	72.48
Dasheens	Lb.	1.77	1.54	0.23	14.94
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	1.99	1.71	0.28	16.37
Oranges	Each	0.79	0.85	-0.06	-7.06
Tomatoes	Lb.	3.36	3.23	0.13	4.02
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	7.86	7.90	-0.04	-0.51
Vegetable Oil	1 Litre	10.54	10.54	0.00	0.00
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.58	10.44	0.14	1.34
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail (not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.26	2.24	0.02	0.89
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.60	5.66	-0.06	-1.06

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

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		APRIL 2015	APRIL 2014		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	29.02	29.02	0.00	0.00
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	4.48	4.59	-0.11	-2.40
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.47	3.47	0.00	0.00
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	18.58	18.23	0.35	1.92
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	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
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	24.75	0.15	0.61
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	1 Length	86.38	85.87	0.51	0.59
Oil Paint	1 Gal.	105.00	110.00	-5.00	-4.55
Lumber -Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	1 Length	68.08	67.10	0.98	1.46
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	118.26	156.02	-37.76	-24.20
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	1.14	1.10	0.04	3.64
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	5.94	5.42	0.52	9.59

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

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		APRIL 2015	APRIL 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	15.52	0.06	0.39
Dental Care	1 Visit	123.33	114.17	9.16	8.02
Chest X- ray	1 Test	120.00	110.00	10.00	9.09
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	1 Gal.	10.84	14.34	-3.50	-24.41
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	0.80	0.73	0.07	9.59
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	3.32	3.17	0.15	4.73
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
APRIL 2015 COMPARED WITH APRIL 2014

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		APRIL 2015	APRIL 2014		
EDUCATION					
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	73.72	6.44	8.74
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	3.48	3.46	0.02	0.58
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.05	9.04	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	12.86	-0.09	-0.70
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	MARCH 2015	APRIL 2015	APRIL 2014	PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS:	
						MONTH MARCH	YEAR APRIL
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	111.9	110.6	111.5	-1.2	-0.8
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	109.6	109.3	109.6	-0.3	-0.3
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	98.8	100.0	106.6	1.2	-6.2
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	101.3	101.6	101.0	0.3	0.6
06.	Health	1.79	104.0	105.0	103.1	1.0	1.8
07.	Transport	11.84	119.9	119.5	126.4	-0.3	-5.5
08.	Communication	9.41	102.0	102.0	96.5	0.0	5.7
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	102.6	102.6	102.8	0.0	-0.2
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	101.1	101.1	100.8	0.0	0.3
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	105.5	105.6	108.0	0.1	-2.2

Chart 1: COICOP Groups Percentage Change for April 2015

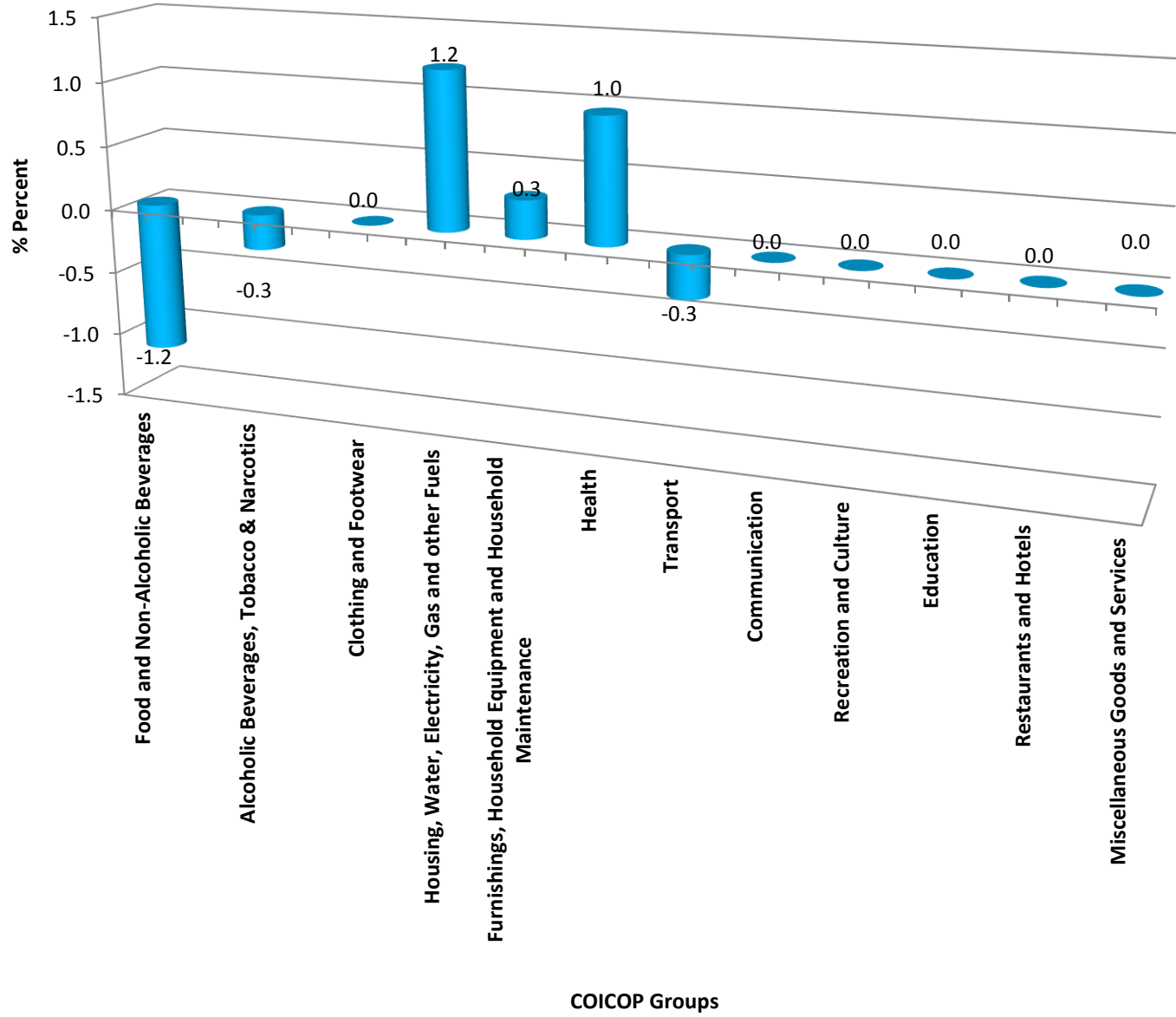


TABLE 4
THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAIN GROUPS
JANUARY 2010 = 100
CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE

	GROUP	WEIGHT	MARCH 2015	APRIL 2015	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	Contribution to Change %
						MARCH 2015	APRIL 2015		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	111.9	110.6	-1.2	2,451.73	2,423.25	-28.5	-284.8
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	109.6	109.3	-0.3	424.15	422.99	-1.2	-11.6
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	98.8	100.0	1.2	2,969.93	3,006.00	36.1	360.7
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	101.3	101.6	0.3	667.57	669.54	2.0	19.8
6.	Health	1.79	104.0	105.0	1.0	186.16	187.95	1.8	17.9
7.	Transport	11.84	119.9	119.5	-0.3	1,419.62	1,414.88	-4.7	-47.4
8.	Communication	9.41	102.0	102.0	0.0	959.82	959.82	0.0	0.0
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	101.1	101.1	0.0	435.74	435.74	0.0	0.0
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	105.5	105.6	0.1	10,550.00	10,560.00	10.0	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 & Culture	Education	Restaurants & 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
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