



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



THE STATISTICAL OFFICE

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC PLANNING
ETC.**

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
Analysis –	1
Table No.	
1 Average Retail Price of Selected Items	4
2 Average Retail Price of Selected Items JANUARY 2019 compared With JANUARY 2018	5
3 The Consumer Price Index by main groups	9
4 The Consumer Price Index contribution to change by Groups	11
5 Monthly Items by Group	12
Chart No.	
1 COICOP Percentage Change for the Month of JANUARY 2019	10

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JANUARY 2019

During the month of January 2019, the consumer price index registered an increase of 0.5 percent (*see table 3*).

The “All Items” index was recorded at 111.4 compared to 110.8 for the month of December 2018. Eight (8) groups recorded increases during the month, “Transport” (2.2%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (2.0%), “Health” (0.5%), “Restaurants and Hotels” (0.3%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.3%), “Clothing and Footwear” (0.3%) , “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (0.3%) and “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels (0.1%). The only group that recorded a decrease was “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.1%) (*see table 3*).

The increase in the group index “Transport” was on account of higher prices for passenger airfare, from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to St. Lucia (52.2%) and Toronto (22.8%), jeep tyres - new (6.5%) and diesel (1.0%).

“Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” group index rose by 2.0 percent as a result of an increase in the cost of a gas stove (27.2%) and refridgerator (12.0%). Meanwhile, the “Health” index grew by 0.5 percent on account of a 14.3 percent increase in the cost of general doctor consultation fees.

Similarly, the upward movement in the “Restaurants and Hotels” group index was attributed to a 25.0 percent increase in the cost of school meals.

“Miscellaneous Goods and Services” group index rose by 0.3 percent. This was due to an 18.5 percent increase in the price of relaxer beauty products.

Whereas, the “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” group index rose by 0.3 percent due to increases in the cost of steels rods (10.5%) and electricity (0.8%).

Correspondingly the “Clothing and Footwear” index registered a 0.3 percent increase as a consequence of higher prices for textile materials jacquard (15.4%) and poly stripe suiting-wool (8.4%).

“Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” index recorded a 0.3 percent increase because of a 2.8 percent increase in the cost of ginger wine.

The downward movement in the “Food and Non- Alcoholic Beverages” group index was due to decreases in the prices of a few commodities namely; chive (18.5%), patties (17.4%), dasheens (8.3%), dried black-eyed peas (6.0%), tomatoes (4.3%) lentils- loose (3.3%) and curry powder (2.9%).

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 1.6 percent for the period January 2019 compared with 2.7 percent for January 2018. The group indexes “Transport” (4.5%), “Recreation and Culture” (2.9%), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (2.8%) and “Housing, Water,

Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (2.1%) recorded the largest increases during the period. There were no decreases among the group indexes for that period (*see table 3*).

The consumer price index rose by 0.5 percent for the month of January 2019.

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 1.6 percent because of relative price changes during the month of January 2019 compared with the same period in the previous year.

Table 1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average Price EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		January 2019	December 2018		
INCREASED					
Eggs	Doz	10.47	9.97	0.50	5.0
Ginger wine	750ml Bot	20.09	19.54	0.55	2.8
Textile material - Jacquard	1 Yd	14.95	12.95	2.00	15.4
Textile material - Polystripe	1 Yd	25.95	23.95	2.00	8.4
Electricity consumption	140KWH	124.89	123.90	0.99	0.8
Steel rods 1/2 ""	Length	21.55	19.50	2.05	10.5
Refridgerator, 10cuft	Each	2717.26	2425.72	291.54	12.0
Gas stove 4 burner , 20 "	Each	1850.20	1454.27	395.93	27.2
Doctor service - General Practitioner	Service	40.00	35.00	5.00	14.3
New - jeep tyres	Each	271.44	254.97	16.47	6.5
Diesel	1 Gal	11.50	11.39	0.11	1.0
Passenger airfare from St.Vincent and the Grenadines to:					
St. Lucia	One Way	567.59	373.00	194.59	52.2
Toronto	Month	3555.00	2896.00	659.00	22.8
School meals - chicken lunch	Each	10.00	8.00	2.00	25.0
Beauty products -relaxers, 4lb	Each	95.10	80.27	14.83	18.5
DECREASED					
Patties	Each	3.00	3.63	-0.63	-17.4
Curry powder	1/4lb	2.98	3.07	-0.09	-2.9
Corned beef	340g Tin	6.60	6.67	-0.07	-1.0
Dasheens	Lb	1.89	2.06	-0.17	-8.3
Chive	bundle	2.29	2.81	-0.52	-18.5
Lentils dried - loose	Lb	3.51	3.63	-0.12	-3.3
Dried black-eyed peas - loose	Lb	4.88	5.19	-0.31	-6.0
Tomatoes	Lb	5.09	5.32	-0.23	-4.3

Table 2.1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
January 2019 Compared With January 2018

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		January 2019	January 2018		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.61	6.99	-0.38	-5.44
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.71	2.89	-0.18	-6.23
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.62	1.63	-0.01	-0.61
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.55	4.48	0.07	1.56
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.11	3.52	-0.41	-11.65
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 (Robin)	Lb.	4.00	5.00	-1.00	-20.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	6.10	5.70	0.40	7.02
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.32	8.24	0.08	0.97
Codfish	Lb.	15.13	15.15	-0.02	-0.13
Cornflakes	12 oz	13.72	14.14	-0.42	-2.97
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.69	4.75	-0.06	-1.26
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.30	3.49	-0.19	-5.54
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	1.89	2.01	-0.12	-5.97
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.19	4.23	-0.04	-0.95
Eggs	Doz	10.47	9.32	1.15	12.34
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	8.93	9.13	-0.20	-2.19
Sugar - Brown (loose)	Lb.	1.64	1.66	-0.02	-1.20
Sugar - White (loose)	Lb.	1.79	1.81	-0.02	-1.10
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.35	1.36	-0.01	-0.74
Flour - Packaged (white)	2 kg	6.83	6.75	0.07	1.11
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2 kg	7.18	7.29	-0.11	-1.51
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.90	1.95	-0.05	-2.56
Rice - Packaged	2Kg	10.55	10.56	-0.01	-0.09
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.42	1.37	0.05	3.65
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.38	2.58	-0.20	-7.75
Eddoes	Lb.	2.83	2.39	0.44	18.41
Dasheens	Lb.	1.89	2.10	-0.21	-10.00
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.08	2.18	-0.10	-4.59
Oranges	Each	0.88	0.86	0.02	2.33
Tomatoes	Lb.	5.09	4.24	0.85	20.05
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	9.17	9.13	0.04	0.49
Vegetable Oil	Litre	12.40	12.38	0.02	0.20
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.81	10.80	0.01	0.09
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail (not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.86	2.56	0.30	11.72
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.73	5.72	0.01	0.17

Table 2.2
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
January 2019 Compared With January 2018

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		January 2019	January 2018		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	30.13	29.89	0.24	0.80
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.09	4.73	0.36	7.61
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.96	4.00	-0.04	-1.00
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	21.40	21.30	0.10	0.47
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	Pair	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	102.48	100.00	2.48	2.48
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	20.89	20.89	0.00	0.00
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	Length	96.68	96.28	0.40	0.42
Oil Paint	Gallon	134.43	112.87	21.56	19.10
Lumber - Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	Length	69.24	69.20	0.04	0.06
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gallons	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.00
Kerosene	1 Gallon	6.61	6.61	0.00	0.00
Charcoal	Sack	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	40.46	37.52	2.94	7.84
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	124.89	117.04	7.85	6.71
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1162.88	1162.88	0.00	0.00
Double size sheets - coloured/cotton	Each	105.00	105.00	0.00	0.00
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	55.84	55.84	0.00	0.00
Laundry Soap	Each	1.24	1.23	0.01	0.81
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	6.29	6.25	0.04	0.64

Table 2.3
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
January 2019 Compared With January 2018

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		January 2019	January 2018		
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
Drugs for Hypertension	Month supply	3.50	3.50	0.00	0.00
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	11.53	13.05	-1.52	-11.65
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.20	15.09	0.11	0.73
Dental Care	Visit	125.33	123.33	2.00	1.62
Chest X- ray	Test	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	12.83	11.42	1.41	12.35
Vehicle License (car) - not exd. 2000 lbs	Year	590.00	590.00	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	Month	23.66	23.66	0.00	0.00
Telephone - Consumption Charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.00	0.00
Internet Charge	Month	104.00	102.14	1.86	1.82
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to Mobile - domestic	Minute	1.00	0.99	0.01	1.02
RECREATION AND CULTURE					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	2001.33	1993.01	8.32	0.42
Cable TV Basic Charge	Month	79.33	74.75	4.58	6.13
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3846.83	3830.84	15.99	0.42
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2079.33	2070.69	8.64	0.42
Remote Control Car	Each	250.06	250.00	0.06	0.02
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	3.83	3.84	-0.01	-0.26
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	375.00	350.00	25.00	7.14

Table 2.4
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
January 2019 Compared With January 2018

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		January 2019	January 2018		
EDUCATION					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	217.50	217.50	0.00	0.00
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	850.00	825.00	25.00	3.03
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	0.78	0.00	0.00
Lead Pencils	Each	1.00	0.87	0.13	14.94
Mathematics Textbook - Form 4	Each	76.43	72.44	3.99	5.51
Tuition for local evening classes	Per Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	14.39	14.39	0.00	0.00
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	15.51	15.51	0.00	0.00
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	17.05	17.05	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES					
Toilet Soap	125g	3.51	3.59	-0.08	-2.16
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.25	9.09	0.16	1.82
Men's Haircut	Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Hairdressing (Relaxer)	Visit	69.82	69.82	0.00	0.00
Disposable Diapers (medium)	10 per Pk.	13.18	12.96	0.22	1.66
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	December 2018	January 2019	January 2018	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month December	Year January
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	116.2	116.1	116.0	-0.1	0.1
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	122.1	122.5	119.2	0.3	2.8
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.9	105.0	104.5	0.1	0.5
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.7	103.0	100.9	0.3	2.1
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	111.4	113.6	111.2	2.0	2.2
06.	Health	1.79	110.3	110.9	109.5	0.5	1.3
07.	Transport	11.84	123.6	126.3	120.9	2.2	4.5
08.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	112.2	0.0	1.0
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	107.4	107.4	104.4	0.0	2.9
10.	Education	1.32	110.3	110.3	110.1	0.0	0.2
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	108.3	108.6	108.3	0.3	0.3
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	103.6	103.9	103.5	0.3	0.4
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	110.8	111.4	109.6	0.5	1.6

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for January 2019

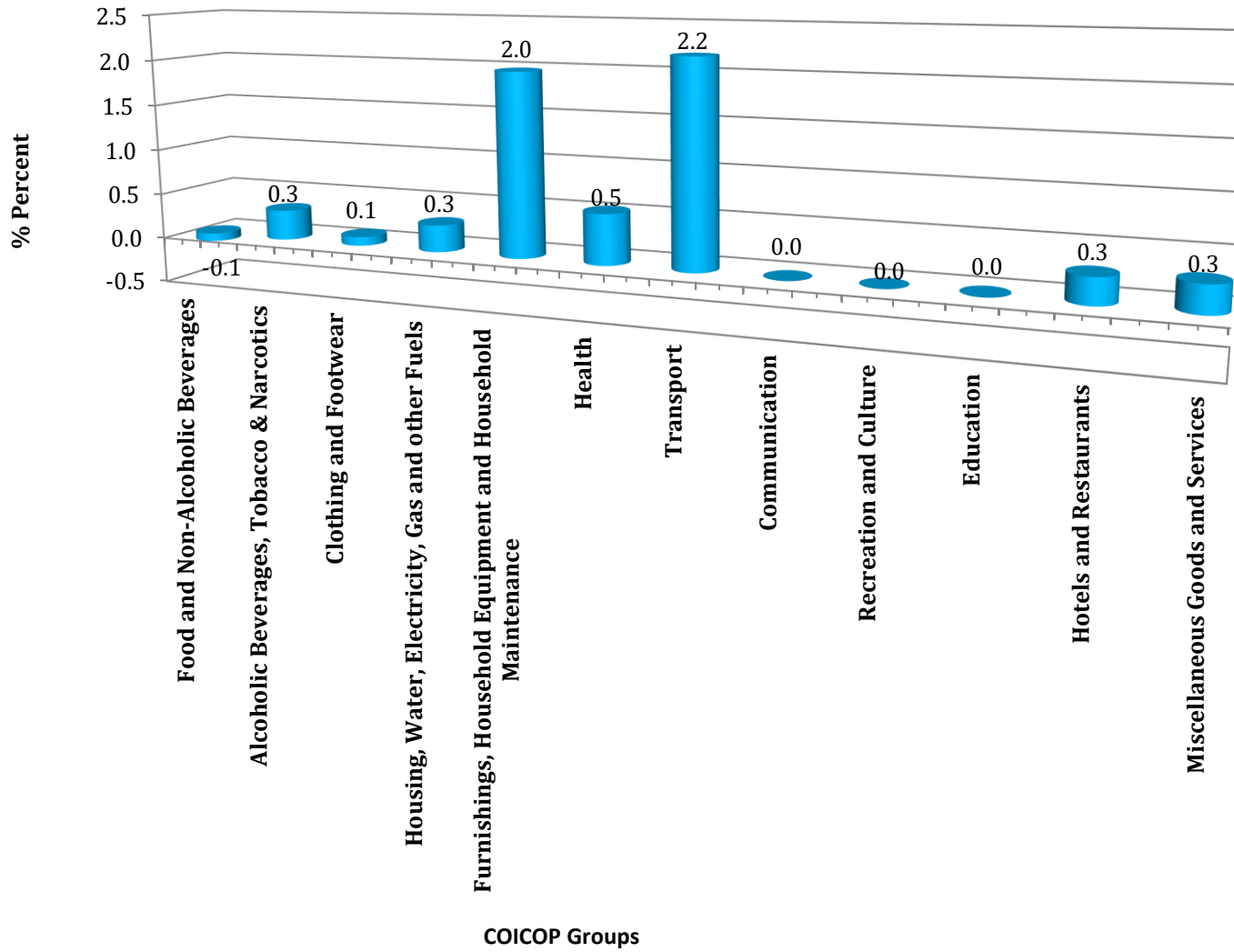


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	December 2018	January 2019	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						December 2018	January 2019		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	116.2	116.1	-0.1	2,545.94	2,543.75	-2.2	-3.7
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	122.1	122.5	0.3	472.53	474.08	1.5	2.6
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.9	105.0	0.1	337.78	338.10	0.3	0.5
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.7	103.0	0.3	3,087.16	3,096.18	9.0	15.0
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	111.4	113.6	2.0	734.13	748.62	14.5	24.2
6.	Health	1.79	110.3	110.9	0.5	197.44	198.51	1.1	1.8
7.	Transport	11.84	123.6	126.3	2.2	1,463.42	1,495.39	32.0	53.3
8.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	0.0	1,066.15	1,066.15	0.0	0.0
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	107.4	107.4	0.0	409.19	409.19	0.0	0.0
10.	Education	1.32	110.3	110.3	0.0	145.60	145.60	0.0	0.0
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	108.3	108.6	0.3	202.52	203.08	0.6	0.9
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	103.6	103.9	0.3	446.52	447.81	1.3	2.2
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	110.8	111.4	0.5	11,080.00	11,140.00	60.0	100.0

TABLE 5
Monthly Index - 2019
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	Hotels & Restaurants	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	111.4	116.1	122.5	105.0	103.0	113.6	110.9	126.3	113.3	107.4	110.3	108.6	103.9