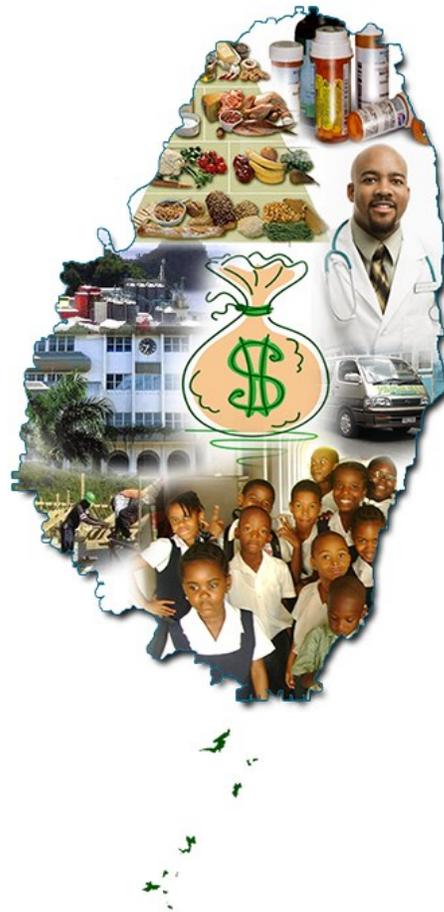




# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



**THE STATISTICAL OFFICE**

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC PLANNING  
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## APRIL 2020

The consumer price index recorded an increase of 0.1 percent for the month of April 2020, compared to a decrease of 0.3 percent for the month of March 2020 (*See table 3*).

During the month of April 2020, the “All Items” index was recorded at 111.6, compared to 111.5 for the month of March 2020. Five (5) groups recorded increases during the month, “Health”, (0.9%), “Recreation and Culture” (0.4%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance”, (0.4%), “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.3%) and “Transport” (0.3%).

Three (3) groups recorded decreases during the period, “Clothing and Footwear” (0.5%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.3%) and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.1%).

Four (4) groups remained unchanged “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics”, “Communication”, “Hotels and Restaurants” and “Education” (*See table 3*).

“Health” group index recorded the largest increase of 0.9 percent. This was on account of higher prices for dental services cleaning (20.0%), extraction (20.0%) and filling (14.3%).

The index for the group “Recreation and Culture” increased by 0.4 percent due to a rise in the cost of cat food (11.9%) and dog food (4.1%).

Similarly, the “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” group index recorded a 0.4 percent rise as a result of higher prices for a few items, namely, teaspoon (16.5%), fork (11.1%), fluorescent tube (10.2%) and frying pan (8.8%).

“Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” group index recorded a 0.3 percent upward movement on account of a 1.3 percent increase in the cost electricity.

Likewise, the “Transport” group index rose by 0.3 percent as a result of a 9.1 percent increase in the price of truck tyre.

The decline in the index for the group “Clothing and Footwear” of 0.5 percent was on account of a lower cost for men’s boxer briefs (37.1%) and terylene textile material (4.0%).

“Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” group index recorded a decrease of 0.3 percent as a result of a reduction in the price of a number of items including, cucumber (14.5%), watermelon (12.6%), tomatoes (10.5%), string bean (9.2%) and broccoli (7.7%).

Meanwhile, the index for the group “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” declined by 0.1 percent, due to a fall in the price of a comb by (4.5%).

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 0.1 percent for the month of April 2020 compared to 1.0 percent for April 2019. The groups that accounted for the largest increases during the period were “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics (2.9%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (2.8%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (2.0%), “Education” (1.8%) and “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (1.5%) (See table 3).

**The consumer price index increased by 0.1 percent for April 2020. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 0.1 percent due to relative price changes during the month of April 2020 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
		April 2020	March 2020		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Electricity Consumption Charge	140KWH	120.55	119.00	1.55	1.3
Teaspoon	Each	4.60	3.95	0.65	16.5
Fork	Each	5.50	4.95	0.55	11.1
Frying pan	Each	59.95	55.10	4.85	8.8
Flourescent tube	Each	10.05	9.12	0.93	10.2
Washing powder	400g Pk	4.93	4.74	0.19	4.0
Dental Service - Cleaning	Visit	180.00	150.00	30.00	20.0
Dental Service - Filling	Visit	200.00	175.00	25.00	14.3
Dental Service - Extraction	Visit	120.00	100.00	20.00	20.0
Truck Tyre - new 750/16	Each	686.07	628.96	57.11	9.1
Cat food	156g Tin	3.20	2.86	0.34	11.9
Dog food	2Kg Bag	33.29	31.98	1.31	4.1
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Evaporated milk	410g Tin	3.02	3.11	-0.09	-2.9
Broccoli	Lb	8.45	9.15	-0.70	-7.7
Christophene	Lb	3.37	3.45	-0.08	-2.3
Cucumber	Lb	3.83	4.48	-0.65	-14.5
Tomatoes	Lb	4.96	5.54	-0.58	-10.5
Stringbean	Lb	3.86	4.25	-0.39	-9.2
Carrots	Lb	4.30	4.55	-0.25	-5.5
Watermelon	Lb	3.73	4.27	-0.54	-12.6
Boxer briefs -Mens	Each	5.00	7.95	-2.95	-37.1
Textile Material -Terylene	Yd	23.95	24.95	-1.00	-4.0
Comb- Large	Each	2.54	2.66	-0.12	-4.5
Drugs for Diabetes - Metformin	Month's Supply	5.20	6.00	-0.80	-13.3
Drugs for Hypertension - Bezide	Month's Supply	2.74	3.00	-0.26	-8.7

**Table 2.1**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**April 2020 Compared With April 2019**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		April 2020	April 2019		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	9.00	8.00	1.00	12.50
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.94	6.66	0.28	4.20
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	3.00	2.78	0.22	7.91
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.70	1.60	0.10	6.25
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.86	4.56	0.30	6.58
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.56	3.11	0.45	14.47
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 (Robin)	Lb.	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	6.24	6.08	0.16	2.58
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.24	8.32	-0.09	-1.02
Codfish	Lb.	15.88	15.24	0.64	4.20
Cornflakes	12 oz	14.16	13.72	0.44	3.17
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.67	4.75	-0.09	-1.79
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.02	3.28	-0.26	-7.83
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	1.89	1.89	0.00	0.00
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.19	4.19	0.00	0.00
Eggs	Doz	8.03	9.71	-1.68	-17.30
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	9.24	8.82	0.42	4.76
Sugar - Brown ( loose)	Lb.	1.62	1.64	-0.02	-1.22
Sugar - White ( loose)	Lb.	1.78	1.79	-0.01	-0.56
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.35	1.35	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged ( white)	2 kg	6.83	6.83	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged ( wholewheat)	2 kg	7.18	7.18	0.00	0.00
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.89	1.90	-0.01	-0.53
Rice - Packaged	2Kg	10.76	10.55	0.21	1.99
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.43	1.43	0.00	0.00
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.39	2.38	0.01	0.42
Eddoes	Lb.	2.83	2.74	0.09	3.28
Dasheens	Lb.	1.97	1.89	0.08	4.23
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.52	2.31	0.21	9.09
Oranges	Each	0.86	0.88	-0.02	-2.27
Tomatoes	Lb.	4.96	4.21	0.75	17.81
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	9.38	9.17	0.21	2.29
Vegetable Oil	Litre	12.41	12.40	0.01	0.04
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.57	10.81	-0.24	-2.22
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail ( not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.90	2.80	0.10	3.57
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.78	5.73	0.05	0.87

**Table 2.2**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**April 2020 Compared With April 2019**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		April 2020	April 2019		
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO &amp; NARCOTICS</b>					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	32.37	30.13	2.24	7.43
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.09	5.09	0.00	0.00
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	4.01	3.96	0.05	1.26
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	23.44	21.32	2.12	9.94
<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	Pair	49.95	49.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	78.81	79.79	-0.98	-1.23
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	88.67	89.77	-1.10	-1.23
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit ( polyester) large	Each	102.48	102.48	0.00	0.00
Women's Blouse ( cotton/Spandex)	Each	29.95	29.95	0.00	0.00
<b>HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY</b>					
<b>GAS AND OTHER FUELS</b>					
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	20.66	20.66	0.00	0.00
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	Length	96.68	96.68	0.00	0.00
Oil Paint	Gallon	134.43	134.43	0.00	0.00
Lumber - Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	Length	81.89	69.30	12.59	18.17
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.	35.49	37.66	-2.17	-5.76
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	120.55	130.63	-10.08	-7.72
<b>FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE</b>					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1167.61	1150.23	17.38	1.51
Double size sheets - coloured/cotton	Each	105.11	105.00	0.11	0.10
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	55.98	55.98	0.00	0.00
Laundry Soap	Each	1.24	1.24	0.00	0.00
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	6.37	6.29	0.08	1.27

**Table 2.3**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**April 2020 Compared With April 2019**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		April 2020	April 2019		
<b>HEALTH</b>					
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	3.37	3.50	-0.13	-3.71
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	10.09	11.71	-1.62	-13.84
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.18	15.20	-0.02	-0.11
Dental Care	Visit	145.83	132.50	13.33	10.06
Chest X- ray	Test	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TRANSPORT</b>					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	11.97	12.02	-0.05	-0.42
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
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>					
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	104.00	0.00	0.00
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to Mobile - domestic	Minute	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
<b>RECREATION AND CULTURE</b>					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	2011.54	1991.22	20.32	1.02
Cable TV Basic Charge	Month	79.33	79.33	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3886.08	3846.83	39.25	1.02
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2100.55	2079.33	21.22	1.02
Remote Control Car	Each	262.64	250.24	12.40	4.96
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	3.90	3.84	0.06	1.56
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	375.00	375.00	0.00	0.00

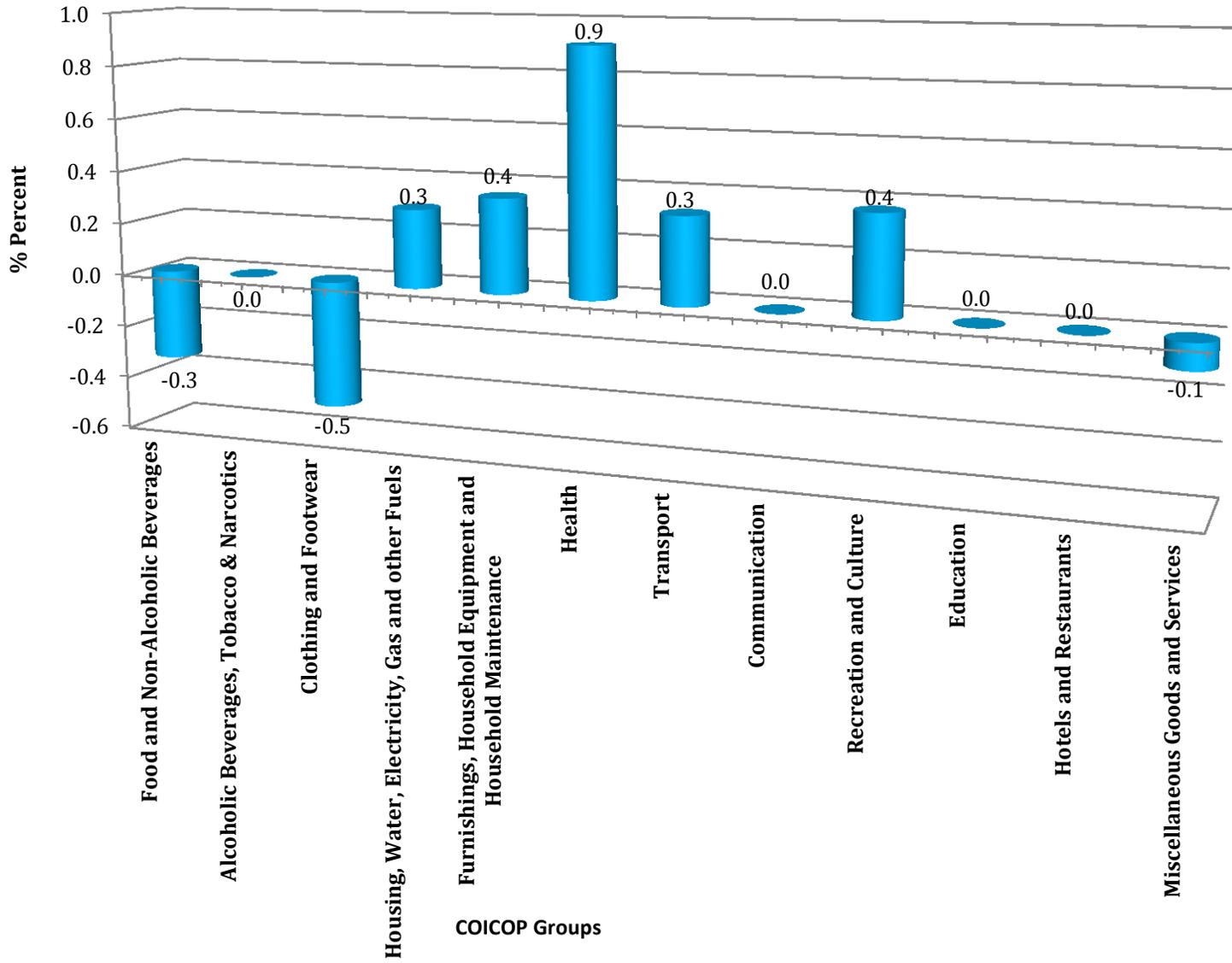
**Table 2.4**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**April 2020 Compared With April 2019**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		April 2020	April 2019		
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	217.50	217.50	0.00	0.00
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	850.00	850.00	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	0.78	0.00	0.00
Lead Pencils	Each	0.75	1.00	-0.25	-25.00
Mathematics Textbook - Form 4	Each	75.12	76.43	-1.31	-1.71
Tuition for local evening classes	Per Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
<b>HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS</b>					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	14.49	14.39	0.10	0.69
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	17.32	15.51	1.81	11.67
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	17.05	17.05	0.00	0.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES</b>					
Toilet Soap	125g	3.59	3.51	0.08	2.21
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.67	9.25	0.42	4.54
Men's Haircut	Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Hairdressing ( Relaxer )	Visit	69.82	67.08	2.74	4.08
Disposable Diapers (medium)	10 per Pk.	13.84	13.18	0.66	5.05
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	March 2020	April 2020	April 2019	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month March	Year April
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	118.5	118.1	116.3	-0.3	1.5
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	126.3	126.3	122.8	0.0	2.9
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	105.0	104.5	105.0	-0.5	-0.5
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.1	102.4	103.7	0.3	-1.3
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.3	113.7	113.3	0.4	0.4
06.	Health	1.79	109.6	110.6	109.9	0.9	0.6
07.	Transport	11.84	122.9	123.3	125.0	0.3	-1.4
08.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	113.3	0.0	0.0
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	107.5	107.9	107.5	0.4	0.4
10.	Education	1.32	112.3	112.3	110.3	0.0	1.8
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	111.6	111.6	108.6	0.0	2.8
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	106.1	106.0	103.9	-0.1	2.0
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>111.5</b>	<b>111.6</b>	<b>111.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>

**Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for April 2020**



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

	Groups	Weight	March 2020	April 2020	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						March 2020	April 2020		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	118.5	118.1	-0.3	2,596.34	2,587.57	-8.8	-87.6
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	126.3	126.3	0.0	488.78	488.78	0.0	0.0
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	105.0	104.5	-0.5	338.10	336.49	-1.6	-16.1
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.1	102.4	0.3	3,069.13	3,078.14	9.0	90.2
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.3	113.7	0.4	746.65	749.28	2.6	26.4
6.	Health	1.79	109.6	110.6	0.9	196.18	197.97	1.8	17.9
7.	Transport	11.84	122.9	123.3	0.3	1,455.14	1,459.87	4.7	47.4
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	107.5	107.9	0.4	409.58	411.10	1.5	15.2
10.	Education	1.32	112.3	112.3	0.0	148.24	148.24	0.0	0.0
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	111.6	111.6	0.0	208.69	208.69	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	106.1	106.0	-0.1	457.29	456.86	-0.4	-4.3
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>111.5</b>	<b>111.6</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>11,150.00</b>	<b>11,160.00</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**TABLE 5**  
**Monthly Index - 2020**  
**January 2010 = 100**

<b>Groups</b>	<b>All Items</b>	<b>Food &amp; Non-Alcoholic Beverages</b>	<b>Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco &amp; Narcotics</b>	<b>Clothing &amp; Footwear</b>	<b>Housing Water Electricity Gas and Fuels</b>	<b>Furnishings Household Equipment &amp; Household Maintenance</b>	<b>Health</b>	<b>Transport</b>	<b>Communi-cation</b>	<b>Recreation &amp; Culture</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>Hotels &amp; Restaurants</b>	<b>Miscell-aneous Goods and Services</b>
<b>WEIGHT</b>	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
<b>MONTH</b>													
January	111.7	117.7	126.2	105.0	102.9	113.6	109.4	123.7	113.3	107.4	112.3	110.2	105.6
February	111.8	118.0	126.3	105.0	102.5	113.6	109.6	125.4	113.3	107.4	112.3	110.2	106.1
March	111.5	118.5	126.3	105.0	102.1	113.3	109.6	122.9	113.3	107.5	112.3	111.6	106.1
April	111.6	118.1	126.3	104.5	102.4	113.7	110.6	123.3	113.3	107.9	112.3	111.6	106.0