



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



THE STATISTICAL OFFICE

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

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Tel: 784 457 2921, 456 1111 Ext 592/353

Fax: 784 456 2430

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FEBRUARY 2021

The consumer price index recorded an increase of 0.3 percent for the month of February 2021, similar to the change recorded for the month of January 2021 (*see table 3*).

During the month of February 2021, the “All Items” index was recorded at 110.8 compared to 110.5 for the month of January 2021. Six (6) groups recorded increases during the month, namely, “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.6%), “Health” (0.4%), “Transport” (0.4%), “Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages” (0.3%), “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.3%) and “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.2%). One (1) group recorded a decrease for the month, “Recreation and Culture” (0.4%). Five groups remained unchanged, “Clothing and Footwear”, “Communication”, “Education”, “Hotels and Restaurants” and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services”.

“Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” grew by 0.6 percent on account of an increase in the price of candles (25.9%), electric bulb (17.6%), pillow cases (15.8%), and dishwashing liquid (5.7%).

The index for “Health” increased by 0.4 percent due to a 15.6 percent rise in the price of drugs that is used for the treatment of hypertension.

Similarly, the “Transport” index grew by 0.4 percent due to an increase of 7.6 percent in passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to New York, U.S.A.

The 0.3 percent increase in the group index for “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” is due mainly to higher prices for several food items which include, corned beef (9.7%), luncheon meat (9.1%), bacon (6.1%), chicken leg quarters (5.7%), tomatoes (5.2%), chicken necks (5.1%) and frozen pork (4.7%).

“Housing, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” grew by 0.3 percent on account of an increase in the price of lumber (4.2%) and an average increase of 14.6 percent in the price of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG).

The group index for “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” grew by 0.2 percent due to a 1.2 percent increase in the price of an imported stout.

Meanwhile, the “Recreation and Culture” index fell by 0.4 percent due to a decrease of 13.8 percent in the price of a pencil.

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at negative 0.9 percent for the month of February 2021 compared to 0.8 percent for February 2020. The groups that accounted for the largest decreases during the period were, “Transport” (5.3%), “Housing, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (2.5%) and “Education” (2.4%) (*See table 3*).

The consumer price index increased by 0.3 percent for February 2021. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at negative 0.9 percent due to relative price changes during the month of February 2021 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
		February 2021	January 2021		
INCREASED					
Chicken leg quarters	Lb	2.77	2.62	0.15	5.7
Corned beef	340g tin	6.20	5.65	0.55	9.7
Pork, frozen	Lb	11.09	10.59	0.50	4.7
Chicken necks	Lb	2.26	2.15	0.11	5.1
Bacon	12oz packet	22.65	21.35	1.30	6.1
Luncheon meat (spam)	340g tin	18.50	16.95	1.55	9.1
Tomatoes	Lb	6.26	5.95	0.31	5.2
Stout (imported)	275ml bottle	6.04	5.97	0.07	1.2
Lumber, DDYP, 1x12x12	1 Length	78.01	74.83	3.18	4.2
LPG (cooking gas):		524.58	457.60	66.98	14.6
"	20Lb	36.62	33.85	2.77	8.2
"	22Lb	51.96	43.30	8.66	20.0
"	25Lb	44.20	40.30	3.90	9.7
"	94.6Lb	216.60	180.50	36.10	20.0
"	100Lb	175.20	159.65	15.55	9.7
Pillow cases	1 pair	15.00	12.95	2.05	15.8
Electric bulb - bayonet	Each	7.41	6.30	1.11	17.6
Dishwashing liquid	450ml	7.58	7.17	0.41	5.7
Candles	4 in pack	6.32	5.02	1.30	25.9
Drugs for hypertension	28 tables per pk.	4.90	4.24	0.66	15.6
Passenger airfare from St Vincent & the Grenadines to New York, U.S.A	1 month	2560.00	2380.00	180.00	7.6
DECREASED					
String beans	Lb	3.34	4.78	-1.44	-30.1
Dasheen	Lb	2.38	2.64	-0.26	-9.8
Tannias	Lb	3.56	3.85	-0.29	-7.5
Yams	Lb	4.17	4.46	-0.29	-6.5
Cucumbers	Lb	2.97	3.22	-0.25	-7.8
Lead pencil	Each	0.75	0.87	-0.12	-13.8
Accommodation services, overseas universities	per semester	2199.34	2450.21	-250.87	-10.2

Table 2.1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2021 Compared With February 2020

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2021	February 2020		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	7.08	6.90	0.18	2.61
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.77	2.83	-0.06	-2.12
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.74	1.70	0.04	2.35
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.87	4.84	0.03	0.62
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.38	3.43	-0.05	-1.46
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.00
Fish - Fresh (Robin)	Lb.	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	6.43	6.24	0.19	3.04
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.27	8.24	0.03	0.36
Codfish	Lb.	15.05	15.47	-0.42	-2.71
Cornflakes	12 oz	14.83	14.01	0.82	5.85
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.76	4.67	0.09	2.04
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.40	3.11	0.29	9.32
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	3.92	4.00	-0.08	-2.00
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	9.45	8.31	1.14	13.72
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	9.32	9.15	0.17	1.86
Sugar - Brown (loose)	Lb.	1.69	1.61	0.08	4.97
Sugar - White (loose)	Lb.	1.79	1.78	0.01	0.56
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.35	1.35	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged (white)	2 kg	6.85	6.83	0.02	0.29
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2 kg	7.18	7.18	0.00	0.00
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.85	1.89	-0.04	-2.12
Rice - Packaged	2Kg	10.74	10.84	-0.10	-0.92
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.45	1.43	0.02	1.40
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.59	2.35	0.24	10.21
Eddoes	Lb.	3.08	2.72	0.36	13.24
Dasheens	Lb.	2.38	1.88	0.50	26.60
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.93	2.41	0.52	21.58
Oranges	Each	0.90	0.87	0.03	3.45
Tomatoes	Lb.	6.26	6.17	0.09	1.46
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	9.67	9.39	0.28	2.98
Vegetable Oil	Litre	12.38	12.42	-0.04	-0.32
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.59	10.53	0.06	0.57
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail (not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.90	2.90	0.00	0.00
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.84	5.84	0.00	0.00

Table 2.2
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2021 Compared With February 2020

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2021	February 2020		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	32.85	32.36	0.49	1.51
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.06	5.09	-0.03	-0.59
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.49	4.01	-0.52	-12.97
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	23.89	23.44	0.45	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	Pair	49.95	49.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	78.78	79.85	-1.07	-1.34
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	88.63	89.83	-1.20	-1.34
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
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	20.66	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	78.01	72.80	5.21	7.16
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.	36.62	35.49	1.13	3.18
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	103.29	122.36	-19.07	-15.59
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1167.61	1167.15	0.46	0.04
Double size sheets - coloured/cotton	Each	105.11	105.11	0.00	0.00
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	55.98	55.98	0.00	0.00
Laundry Soap	Each	1.23	1.25	-0.02	-1.60
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	7.41	6.37	1.04	16.33

Table 2.3
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2021 Compared With February 2020

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2021	February 2020		
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	3.95	3.50	0.45	12.86
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	10.84	10.49	0.36	3.39
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.18	15.23	-0.05	-0.33
Dental Care	Visit	145.18	134.17	11.01	8.21
Chest X- ray	Test	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	10.50	12.97	-2.47	-19.04
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	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
RECREATION AND CULTURE					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	2001.26	2005.04	-3.78	-0.19
Cable TV Basic Charge	Month	79.33	79.33	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3866.22	3873.52	-7.30	-0.19
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2089.81	2093.76	-3.95	-0.19
Remote Control Car	Each	267.97	258.75	9.22	3.56
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	3.95	3.85	0.10	2.60
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
February 2021 Compared With February 2020

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2021	February 2020		
EDUCATION					
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	0.75	0.00	0.00
Mathematics Textbook - Form 4	Each	75.12	75.12	0.00	0.00
Tuition for local evening classes	Per Subject	74.92	100.00	-25.08	-25.08
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	14.49	14.49	0.00	0.00
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	17.32	15.49	1.83	11.81
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	17.05	17.05	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES					
Toilet Soap	125g	3.77	3.61	0.16	4.43
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.99	9.74	0.25	2.57
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.	14.06	13.88	0.18	1.30
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 2021	February 2021	February 2020	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month January	Year February
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	119.7	120.0	118.0	0.3	1.7
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	126.7	126.9	126.3	0.2	0.5
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.5	104.5	105.0	0.0	-0.5
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	99.6	99.9	102.5	0.3	-2.5
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	112.6	113.3	113.6	0.6	-0.3
06.	Health	1.79	114.2	114.6	109.6	0.4	4.6
07.	Transport	11.84	118.3	118.8	125.4	0.4	-5.3
08.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	113.3	0.0	0.0
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	108.7	108.3	107.4	-0.4	0.8
10.	Education	1.32	109.6	109.6	112.3	0.0	-2.4
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	114.0	114.0	110.2	0.0	3.4
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	106.4	106.4	106.1	0.0	0.3
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	110.5	110.8	111.8	0.3	-0.9

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for February 2021

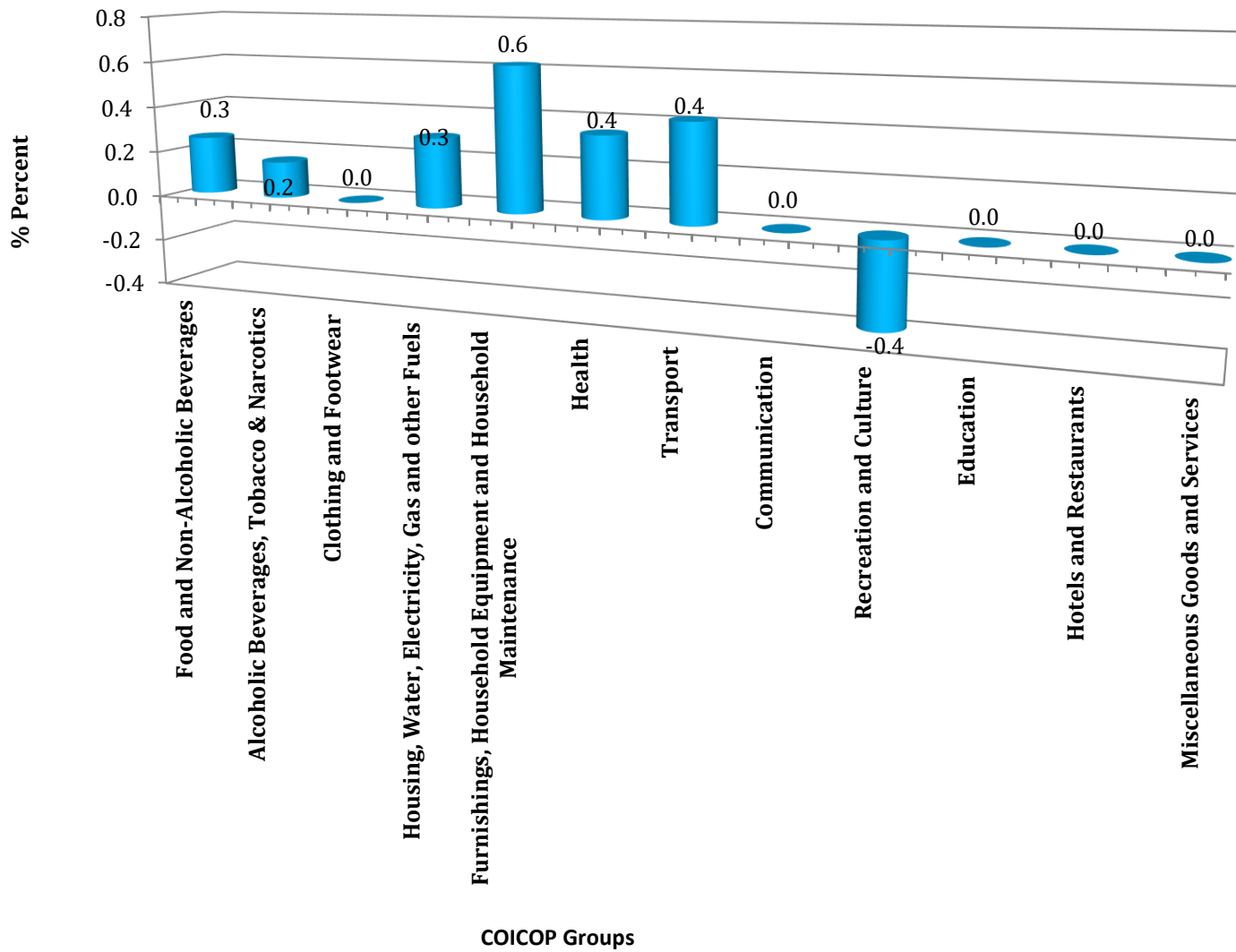


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	January 2021	February 2021	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						January 2021	February 2021		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	119.7	120.0	0.3	2,622.63	2,629.20	6.6	21.9
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	126.7	126.9	0.2	490.33	491.10	0.8	2.6
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.5	104.5	0.0	336.49	336.49	0.0	0.0
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	99.6	99.9	0.3	2,993.98	3,002.99	9.0	30.1
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	112.6	113.3	0.6	742.03	746.65	4.6	15.4
6.	Health	1.79	114.2	114.6	0.4	204.42	205.13	0.7	2.4
7.	Transport	11.84	118.3	118.0	-0.3	1,400.67	1,397.12	-3.6	-11.8
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	108.7	108.3	-0.4	414.15	412.62	-1.5	-5.1
10.	Education	1.32	109.6	109.6	0.0	144.67	144.67	0.0	0.0
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	114.0	114.0	0.0	213.18	213.18	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	106.4	106.4	0.0	458.58	458.58	0.0	0.0
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	110.5	110.8	0.3	11,050.00	11,080.00	30.0	100.0

TABLE 5
Monthly Index - 2021
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	110.5	119.7	126.7	104.5	99.6	112.6	114.2	118.3	113.3	108.7	109.6	114.0	106.4
February	110.8	120.0	126.9	104.5	99.9	113.3	114.6	118.8	113.3	108.3	109.6	114.0	106.4