

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



THE STATISTICAL OFFICE

MINISTRY OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC PLANNING ETC.

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May 2020

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

During the month of May 2020, the "All Items" index was recorded at 110.5, compared to 111.6 for the month of April 2020. Four (4) groups recorded decreased during the period, "Transport" (3.4%), "Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels" (2.1%), "Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics" (0.1%) and "Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance" (0.1%). "Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages" was the only group to record an increase for the month (0.3%). Seven (7) groups remained unchanged, "Clothing and Footwear", "Health", "Communication", "Recreation and Culture", "Education", "Hotels and Restaurants" and Miscellaneous Goods and Services". (See table 3).

"Transport" recorded the largest decline of 3.4 percent. This was on account of a reduction in the price of diesel (13.9%), petrol (12.5%) and used truck tyres (5.6%).

The group index for "Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels" fell by 2.1 percent, as a result of a 10.9 percent decrease in the price of electricity and 9.0 percent reduction in the price of lumber. The lower cost for electricity resulted from a reduction in the fuel surcharge rate which moved from 36.11 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of April 2020 compared to 26.74 cents per kilowatt hour for May 2020.

The 0.1 percent decline in the group index for "Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics" resulted from a decrease of 13.2 percent in the price for a pack of cigarettes.

Similarly, the "Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance" group index recorded a decrease of 0.1 percent. This is on account of a 23.1 percent decrease in the price of a disinfectant.

Meanwhile, the "Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages" group index grew by 0.3 percent as a result of an increase in the price of several items which includes; garlic (21.9%), cucumbers (11.2%), evaporated milk (9.6%), black eyed peas (9.2%), kidney beans (6.7%) and salted pig tail (6.3%)

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at negative 0.5 percent for the month of May 2020 compared to a positive 0.5 percent for the month of May 2019. The groups that accounted for the decreases during the period were "Housing, Electricity Gas and Other Fuels" (-2.7%), "Transport" (-2.5%) and "Clothing and Footwear" ((-0.5%) (See table 3).

The consumer price index fell by 0.1 percent for May 2020. The point-to-point inflation rate was recorded at negative 0.5 percent due to relative price changes during the month of May 2020 compared with the same period in the previous year.

Table 1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items

Items	Unit of	Average P EC\$		Change in	Percentage Change in Price	
	Quantity	May 2020	May 2020	Price		
INCREASED						
Salted pig tail	Lb	6.59	6.20	0.39	6.3	
Evaporated milk	410g tin	3.31	3.02	0.29	9.6	
Cucumbers	Lb	4.26	3.83	0.43	11.2	
Garlic	500g	4.29	3.52	0.77	21.9	
Black eyed peas, loose	Lb	6.06	5.55	0.51	9.2	
Kidney beans, loose	Lb	6.05	5.67	0.38	6.7	
Matches	Box	2.26	2.11	0.15	7.1	
DECREASED						
English potatoes	Lb	2.65	2.84	-0.19	-6.7	
Cigarettes	10 per pack	3.48	4.01	-0.53	-13.2	
Lumber, plywood	1 length	74.54	81.89	-7.35	-9.0	
Electricity	140Kwh	107.44	120.55	-13.11	-10.9	
Disinfectant	30oz bottle	4.00	5.20	-1.20	-23.1	
Truck tyres, used	Each	90.00	95.36	-5.36	-5.6	
Petrol	1 gallon	10.47	11.97	-1.50	-12.5	
Diesel	1 gallon	9.29	10.79	-1.50	-13.9	

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

Items	Unit of		rage C\$	Change in	Percentage Change	
	Quantity	May 2020	May 2019	Price	in Price	
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES						
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	9.00	8.00	1.00	12.50	
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.93	6.69	0.24	3.59	
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.97	2.83	0.14	4.95	
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.70	1.60	0.10	6.25	
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.90	4.65	0.25	5.38	
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.48	3.19	0.29	9.09	
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	6.28	6.08	0.20	3.35	
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.24	8.30	-0.07	-0.78	
Codfish	Lb.	16.09	15.28	0.81	5.30	
Cornflakes	12 oz	14.16	13.69	0.47	3.40	
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.67	4.66	0.00	0.11	
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.53	3.27	0.26	8.06	
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	7.74	9.54	-1.80	-18.87	
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	9.25	8.87	0.38	4.28	
Sugar - Brown (loose)	Lb.	1.62	1.63	-0.01	-0.61	
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	6.82	0.00	0.07	
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2 kg	7.18	7.18	0.00	0.00	
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.89	1.91	-0.02	-1.05	
Rice - Packaged	2Kg	10.76	10.55	0.21	1.96	
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.43	1.42	0.01	0.70	
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.41	2.38	0.03	1.26	
Eddoes	Lb.	2.84	2.74	0.10	3.65	
Dasheens	Lb.	1.97	1.89	0.08	4.23	
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.53	2.31	0.22	9.52	
Oranges	Each	0.86	0.88	-0.02	-2.27	
Tomatoes	Lb.	4.87	4.24	0.63	14.86	
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	9.45	9.17	0.28	3.05	
Vegetable Oil	Litre	12.41	12.40	0.01	0.04	
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.59	10.81	-0.22	-1.99	
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 May 2020 Compared With May 2019

	Unit	Ave	_	Change	Percentage	
Items	of	EC	<u> </u>	in	Change	
	Quantity	May	May	Price	in	
		2020	2019		Price	
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS						
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	3.38	31.56	-28.18	-89.29	
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.09	5.09	0.00	0.00	
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.48	3.96	-0.48	-12.12	
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	23.79	21.32	2.47	11.59	
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	78.81	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	
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	74.54	69.30	5.24	7.56	
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	107.54	125.90	-18.36	-14.58	
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD						
EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD						
MAINTENANCE						
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1167.61	1181.73	-14.12	-1.19	
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 May 2020 Compared With May 2019

Itama	Unit of	Ave: E(_	Change	Percentage
Items	Quantity	May	May	in Price	Change in
	Quantity	May 2020	2019	File	Price
		2020	2019		File
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	3.37	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	15.28	-0.10	-0.65
Dental Care	Visit	145.83	125.33	20.50	16.36
Chest X- ray	Test	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	10.47	12.02	-1.55	-12.90
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	2011.54	1991.19	20.35	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	3846.77	39.31	1.02
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2100.55	2079.30	21.25	1.02
Remote Control Car	Each	262.64	250.22	12.42	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
			1		

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

	Unit	Ave	rage	Change	Percentage
Items	of		C\$	in	Change
	Quantity	May	May	Price	in
		2020	2019		Price
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	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
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS					
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
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS					
AND SERVICES					
Toilet Soap	125g	3.61	3.52	0.09	2.63
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.67	9.30	0.37	4.03
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	13.24	0.60	4.53
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	April 2020	May 2020	May 2019		ge Change revious: Year May
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	118.1	118.4	116.2	0.3	1.9
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	126.3	126.2	123.7	-0.1	2.0
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	102.4	100.2	103.0	-2.1	-2.7
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.7	113.6	113.3	-0.1	0.3
06.	Health	1.79	110.6	110.6	109.9	0.0	0.6
07.	Transport	11.84	123.3	119.1	122.2	-3.4	-2.5
08.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	113.3	0.0	0.0
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	107.9	107.9	107.5	0.0	0.4
10.	Education		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	106.0	106.0	104.1	0.0	1.8
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	111.6	110.5	111.0	-1.0	-0.5

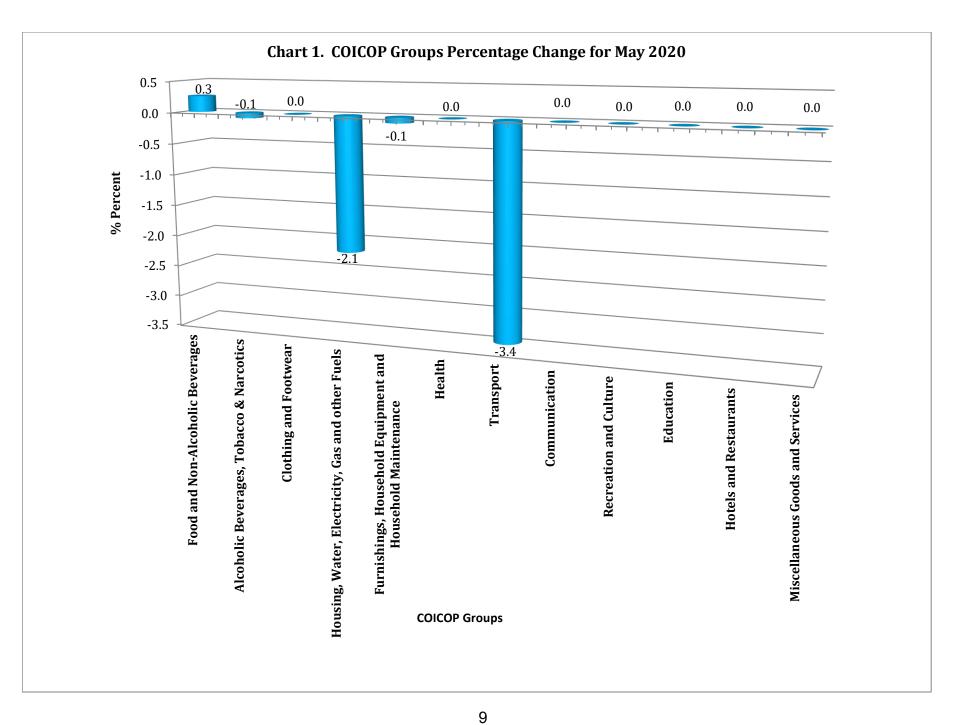


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

						Cost Weight		Change in	% Contribution
	Groups	Weight	April 2020	May 2020	Percentage Change	April 2020	May 2020	Cost Weight	to Change
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	118.1	118.4	0.3	2,587.57	2,594.14	6.6	-6.0
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	126.3	126.2	-0.1	488.78	488.39	-0.4	0.4
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	102.4	100.2	-2.1	3,078.14	3,012.01	-66.1	60.1
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.7	113.6	-0.1	749.28	748.62	-0.7	0.6
6.	Health	1.79	110.6	110.6	0.0	197.97	197.97	0.0	0.0
7.	Transport	11.84	123.3	119.1	-3.4	1,459.87	1,410.14	-49.7	45.2
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	107.9	107.9	0.0	411.10	411.10	0.0	0.0
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	106.0	106.0	0.0	456.86	456.86	0.0	0.0
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	111.6	110.5	-1.0	11,160.00	11,050.00	-110.0	100.0

TABLE 5 Monthly Index - 2020 January 2010 = 100

Groups	All Items	Food & Non- Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco & Narcotics	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 MONTH	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
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
May	110.5	118.4	126.2	104.5	100.2	113.6	110.6	119.1	113.3	107.9	112.3	111.6	106.0