



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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MAY 2021

The consumer price index recorded a decrease of 0.1 percent for the month of May 2021, compared to an increase of 0.5 percent for the month of April 2021 (*see table 3*).

During the month of May 2021, the “All Items” index was recorded at 111.9 compared to 112.0 for the month of April 2021. Four (4) groups recorded increases during the month, namely, “Health” (0.5%), “Transport” (0.2%), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (0.1%) and “Recreation and Culture” (0.1%). Three (3) groups recorded decrease for the month, “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.5%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.1%) and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.1%). Five (5) groups remained unchanged, namely, “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages”, “Clothing and Footwear”, “Communication”, “Education” and “Hotels and Restaurants”.

“Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” group index recorded a decrease of 0.5 percent. This was on account of a fall in the price of a french door (1.7%) and the cost of electricity (3.4%).

The 0.1 percent decline in the “Furnishing, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” is due to lower prices for disinfectant (3.8%), washing soap (1.6%), toilet paper (0.7%) and washing powder (0.6%).

Lower prices for an antibacterial soap (5.5%) and toilet soap (2.3%) were responsible for the 0.1 percent decrease in the group index for “Miscellaneous Goods and Services”.

The index for “Health” increased by 0.5 percent on account of a 27.8 percent rise in the price of the drugs that is used for the treatment of hypertension.

Similarly, the index for “Transport” index grew by 0.2 percent due to an increase in the price for truck tyres (18.3%) and motor car tyres (13.9%).

The group index for “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” increased by 0.1 percent due to higher prices for imported rum (1.3%) and local beer (0.8%).

Higher prices for an english textbook (6.1%) and exercise book (1.0%) were responsible for the 0.1 percent increase in the group index for “Recreation and Culture”.

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 1.3 percent for the month of May 2021 compared to negative 0.5 percent for May 2020. The groups that accounted for the largest increase during the period were, “Health” (4.2%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (2.2%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (1.8%) and “Transport” (1.8%) (See table 3).

The consumer price index decreased by 0.1 percent for May 2021. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 1.3 percent due to relative price changes during the month of May 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
		May 2021	April 2021		
INCREASED					
Pig tail - fresh	Lb	6.50	5.89	0.61	10.4
Chicken - whole legs	Lb	2.90	2.76	0.14	5.1
Chicken - necks	Lb	2.60	2.48	0.12	4.8
Pork ribs	Lb	6.26	6.11	0.15	2.5
Beer - local	280 ml Bottle	5.10	5.06	0.04	0.8
Rum - imported	750 ml Bottle	25.59	25.25	0.34	1.3
Drug for Hypertension	28 tablets per pk	6.26	4.90	1.36	27.8
Motor car tyres	size 185/70/13	173.25	152.10	21.15	13.9
Truck tyres	size 750/16	656.33	555.00	101.33	18.3
English text book	Form 4	70.71	66.67	4.04	6.1
Exercise book	Each	1.00	0.99	0.01	1.0
DECREASED					
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWh	114.67	118.68	-4.01	-3.4
Door - french	36 x 80 inches	418.99	426.40	-7.41	-1.7
washing soap	Each	1.20	1.22	-0.02	-1.6
washing powder	500g Pk	4.74	4.77	-0.03	-0.6
Disinfectant	28oz Bottle	7.28	7.57	-0.29	-3.8
Toilet paper	300 sheet	1.47	1.48	-0.01	-0.7
Antibacteial soap	125g, Each	4.49	4.75	-0.26	-5.5
Toilet soap	125g, Each	3.84	3.93	-0.09	-2.3

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		May 2021	May 2020		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	7.17	6.93	0.24	3.46
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	3.02	2.97	0.05	1.68
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.81	1.70	0.11	6.47
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	5.01	4.90	0.11	2.24
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.61	3.48	0.13	3.74
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	8.00	9.00	-1.00	-11.11
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	6.41	6.28	0.13	2.07
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.19	8.24	-0.04	-0.55
Codfish	Lb.	13.87	16.09	-2.22	-13.80
Cornflakes	12 oz	14.84	14.16	0.69	4.84
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.76	4.67	0.09	2.04
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.40	3.53	-0.13	-3.68
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	9.70	7.74	1.96	25.32
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	9.30	9.25	0.05	0.54
Sugar - Brown (loose)	Lb.	1.67	1.62	0.05	3.09
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	0.03	0.37
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	10.76	-0.02	-0.15
Bananas (ripe)	Lb.	1.50	1.43	0.07	4.90
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.58	2.41	0.17	7.05
Eddoes	Lb.	3.08	2.84	0.24	8.45
Dasheens	Lb.	2.32	1.97	0.35	17.77
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	3.01	2.53	0.48	18.97
Oranges	Each	0.90	0.86	0.04	4.65
Tomatoes	Lb.	4.32	4.87	-0.55	-11.29
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	9.67	9.45	0.22	2.33
Vegetable Oil	Litre	12.40	12.41	0.00	-0.04
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.64	10.59	0.05	0.47
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail (not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.90	2.90	0.00	0.00
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.81	5.78	0.03	0.52

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		May 2021	May 2020		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	32.85	31.56	1.29	4.09
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.10	5.09	0.01	0.20
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.49	3.48	0.01	0.29
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	23.89	23.79	0.10	0.42
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	69.92	69.95	-0.03	-0.04
Men's Jeans (long) - size 30	Pair	49.95	49.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	79.03	78.81	0.22	0.28
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	88.92	88.67	0.25	0.28
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	112.26	96.68	15.58	16.12
Oil Paint	Gallon	134.83	134.43	0.40	0.30
Lumber - Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	Length	82.01	74.54	7.47	10.02
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	60.00	40.00	20.00	50.00
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	36.62	35.49	1.13	3.18
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	114.67	107.54	7.13	6.63
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD					
EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD					
MAINTENANCE					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1167.61	1167.61	0.00	0.00
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	1.20	1.24	-0.04	-3.23
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	7.42	6.37	1.05	16.48

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		May 2021	May 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	4.63	3.37	1.26	37.39
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	10.49	10.09	0.40	4.02
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.18	15.18	0.00	-0.02
Dental Care	Visit	145.83	145.83	0.00	0.00
Chest X- ray	Test	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	11.25	10.47	0.78	7.45
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	2011.54	-10.28	-0.51
Cable TV Basic Charge	Month	79.33	79.33	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3866.22	3886.08	-19.86	-0.51
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2089.81	2100.55	-10.74	-0.51
Remote Control Car	Each	267.97	262.64	5.33	2.03
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	3.95	3.90	0.05	1.28
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
May 2021 Compared With May 2020

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		May 2021	May 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	74.92	75.12	-0.20	-0.27
Tuition for local evening classes	Per Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	14.49	14.49	0.00	0.00
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	17.32	17.32	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	3.74	3.61	0.13	3.60
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.88	9.67	0.21	2.17
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.	14.01	13.84	0.17	1.23
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 2021	May 2021	May 2020	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month March	Year April
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	120.5	120.5	118.4	0.0	1.8
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	126.8	126.9	126.2	0.1	0.6
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.7	104.7	104.5	0.0	0.2
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.4	101.9	100.2	-0.5	1.7
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.9	113.8	113.6	-0.1	0.2
06.	Health	1.79	114.6	115.2	110.6	0.5	4.2
07.	Transport	11.84	121.0	121.3	119.1	0.2	1.8
08.	Communication	9.41	113.3	113.3	113.3	0.0	0.0
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	108.3	108.4	107.9	0.1	0.5
10.	Education	1.32	109.6	109.6	112.3	0.0	-2.4
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	114.0	114.0	111.6	0.0	2.2
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	106.4	106.3	106.0	-0.1	0.3
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	112.0	111.9	110.5	-0.1	1.3

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for May 2021

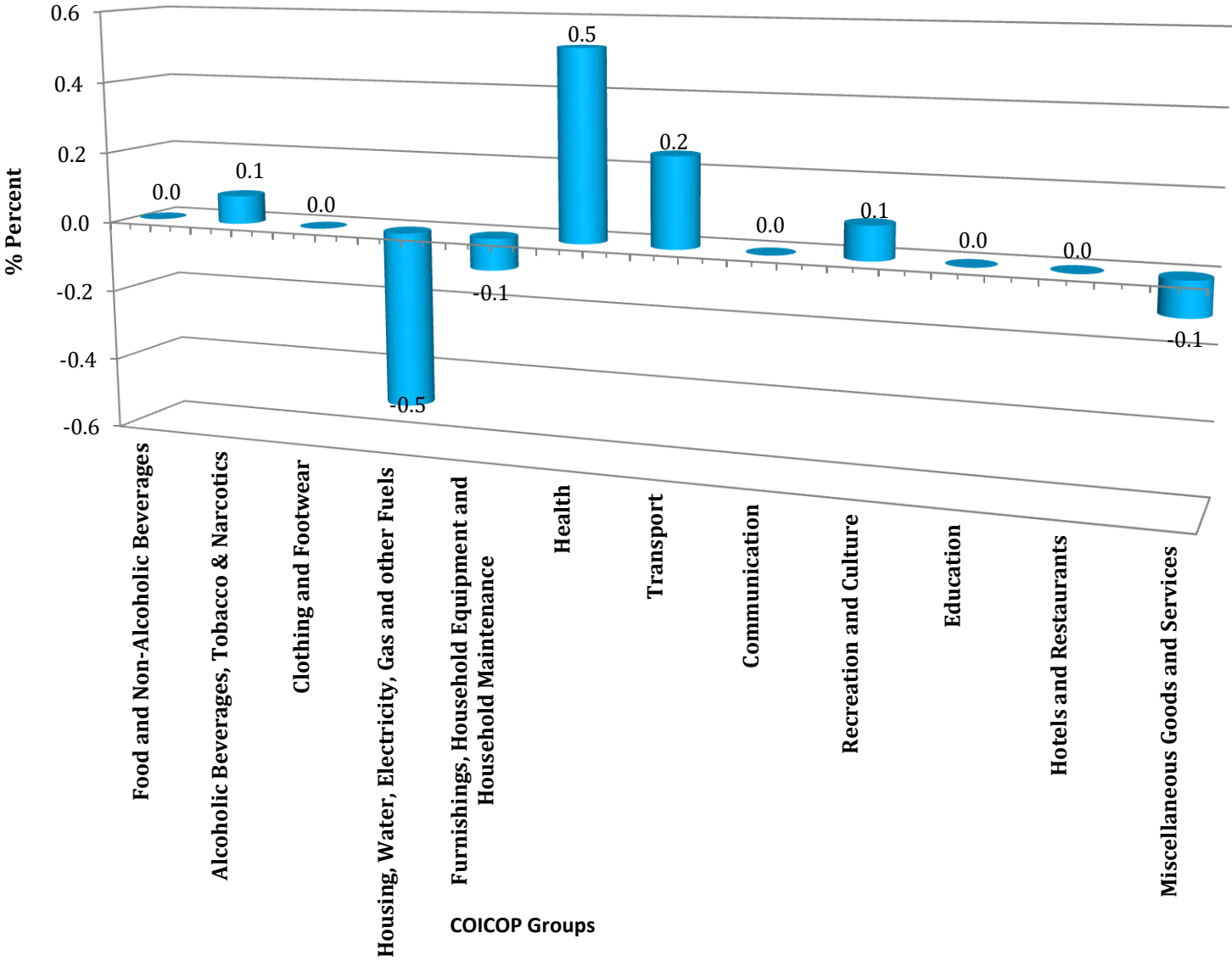


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	April 2021	May 2021	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						April 2021	May 2021		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	120.5	120.5	0.0	2,640.16	2,640.16	0.0	0.0
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	126.8	126.9	0.1	490.72	491.10	0.4	-3.9
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.7	104.7	0.0	337.13	337.13	0.0	0.0
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.4	101.9	-0.5	3,078.14	3,063.11	-15.0	150.3
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	113.9	113.8	-0.1	750.60	749.94	-0.7	6.6
6.	Health	1.79	114.6	115.2	0.5	205.13	206.21	1.1	-10.7
7.	Transport	11.84	121.0	121.3	0.2	1,432.64	1,436.19	3.6	-35.5
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	108.3	108.4	0.1	412.62	413.00	0.4	-3.8
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	106.3	-0.1	458.58	458.15	-0.4	4.3
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	112.0	111.9	-0.1	11,200.00	11,190.00	-10.0	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
March	111.4	120.2	126.8	104.5	100.8	113.4	114.6	121.0	113.3	108.3	109.6	114.0	106.4
April	112.0	120.5	126.8	104.7	102.4	113.9	114.6	121.0	113.3	108.3	109.6	114.0	106.4
May	111.9	120.5	126.9	104.7	101.9	113.8	115.2	121.3	113.3	108.4	109.6	114.0	106.3