



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



THE STATISTICAL OFFICE

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

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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FEBRUARY 2023

The consumer price index recorded an increase of 0.1 percent for the month of February 2023, compared to 0.2 percent decrease for the month of January 2023 (see table 3).

During the month of February 2023, the “All Items” index was recorded at 121.5 compared to 121.4 for the month of January 2023. Eight (8) groups recorded increases during the month namely, “Health” (3.0%), “Recreation and Culture” (1.7%), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (1.1%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (0.9%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.7%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.6%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.2%) and “Clothing and Footwear” (0.1%). Two (2) groups recorded decreases for the month, “Transport” (2.9%) and “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.2%). Two (2) groups remained unchanged, “Communication” and “Education”, (*See table 3*).

The index for “Health” increased by 3.0 percent due to an increase in the price of pain relievers (53.4%), drugs used for the treatment of cancer (41.5%) and drugs for hypertension (21.8).

Higher prices for a tablet (74.6%) and mathematics textbook (2.2%) were responsible for the 1.7 percent increase in the group index for “Recreation and Culture”.

The group index for “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” increased by 1.1 percent due to higher prices for an imported white rum (8.0%), an imported red rum (3.5%) and local rum (3.5%).

The 0.9 percent increase in “Hotels and Restaurants” group index was due mainly to an increase in the price for local fruit juice (9.6%), chicken lunch (8.3%) and fish lunch (7.7%).

“Miscellaneous Goods and Services” increase by 0.7 percent as a result of increases in the prices for sanitary napkins (45.5%), bath soap (23.2%) and disposable diapers (11.8%).

The “Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages” group index recorded a 0.6 percent increase as a result of higher prices for a number of food items namely; lentil peas (39.1%), flaked tuna (15.5%), cornflakes (14.3%), green seasoning (12.3%), dasheen (12.1%), cocoa powder (10.0%), robin fish (9.9%), chicken wings (5.5%) and chicken sausage (4.9%).

The group index for “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” increased by 0.2 percent on account of an increase in the price of dinner plates (17.4%), a queen size mattress (16.8%) and powder detergent (13.9%).

“Clothing and Footwear” grew by 0.1 percent as a result of increases in the prices for panties (25.7%) and boxer briefs (7.0%).

The 2.9 percent decline in the “Transport” index was mainly on account of a decrease in passenger airfare from St Vincent and the Grenadines to New York (18.7%), Miami (10.6%) and Grenada (1.8%).

The “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” group index recorded a decrease of 0.2 percent due mainly to a decrease in the price of electricity (0.8%).

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 5.8 percent for the month of February 2023 compared to 3.6 percent for February 2022. The groups that accounted for the largest increases during the period were, “Hotels and Restaurants” (15.4%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (13.3%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (10.5%) and “Transport” (6.2%) (See table 3).

The consumer price index increased by 0.1 percent for February 2023. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 5.8 due to relative price changes during the month of February 2023 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 2023	January 2023			
INCREASED						
Cornflakes	340g Box	27.75	24.27	3.48	14.3	
Chicken wings	Lb	5.72	5.42	0.30	5.5	
Chicken sausage	141g Tin	3.23	3.08	0.15	4.9	
Robin fish	Lb	5.00	4.55	0.45	9.9	
Flaked tune	142g Tin	4.63	4.01	0.62	15.5	
Margarine	445g Tub	11.81	11.37	0.44	3.9	
Dasheen	Lb	2.40	2.14	0.26	12.1	
Lentil peas	454g Pk	5.30	3.81	1.49	39.1	
Green seasoning	750ml Bottle	16.40	14.60	1.80	12.3	
Cocoa powder	115g Tin	13.39	12.17	1.22	10.0	
Red rum - imported	750ml Bottle	36.48	35.24	1.24	3.5	
Rum - local	750ml Bottle	41.95	38.83	1.24	3.5	
White rum - imported	750ml Bottle	26.74	25.00	3.12	8.0	
Boxer briefs	Each	22.95	22.03	1.74	7.0	
Panties	Each	9.00	7.16	1.84	25.7	
Mattress - Queen	Each	1212.00	1038.00	174.00	16.8	
Powder detergent	1.7kg Pk	27.53	24.16	3.37	13.9	
Dinner plates	Each	8.72	7.43	1.29	17.4	
Drugs for hypertension	28 Tablets	6.42	5.27	1.15	21.8	
Drugs for cancer	30 Tablets	8.49	6.00	2.49	41.5	
Pain relievers	100 Tablets	15.00	9.78	5.22	53.4	
Tablet, 10.1"	Each	596.43	341.52	254.91	74.6	
Mathematics textbook	Form 4	88.42	86.55	1.87	2.2	
Fish lunch - small	Each	14.00	13.00	1.00	7.7	
Chicken lunch - small	Each	13.00	12.00	1.00	8.3	
Chicken roti	Each	10.49	10.00	0.49	4.9	
Fruit juice - local, large	Each	5.48	5.00	0.48	9.6	
Disposable diapers	32 Pcs per pack	46.30	41.40	4.90	11.8	
Sanitary napkins	10 Pcs per pack	8.70	5.98	2.72	45.5	
Bath soap	3 Pk	13.00	10.55	2.45	23.2	
DECREASED						
Pasta - elbows	300g pk	4.34	4.65	-0.31	-6.7	
Chicken thighs	Lbs	4.84	5.38	-0.54	-10.0	
Luncheon meat	200g Tin	7.50	10.14	-2.64	-26.0	
Condensed milk	397g Tin	4.77	5.04	-0.27	-5.4	
Sunflower oil	500 ml	9.75	10.47	-0.72	-6.9	
Black-eye peas	454g Pk	6.75	7.30	-0.55	-7.5	
Tomato ketchup	567g Bottle	17.10	26.38	-9.28	-35.2	
Electricity	150Kwh	146.46	147.66	-1.20	-0.8	
Passenger airfares from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to:						
	Miami	Month	4224.78	4724.69	-499.91	-10.6
	New York	Month	3022.42	3715.50	-693.08	-18.7
	Grenada	One way	297.94	303.37	-5.43	-1.8

Table 2.1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2023 Compared With February 2022

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2023	February 2022		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Rice - Loose	1lb	1.99	1.94	0.05	2.58
Rice - Packaged	2kg	9.77	9.77	0.00	0.00
Flour - Loose	1 lb	1.91	1.38	0.53	38.41
Flour - Packaged (white)	2kg	9.13	6.94	2.19	31.56
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2kg	9.62	7.18	2.44	33.98
Cornflakes	510g Box	14.85	11.73	3.12	26.60
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (white)	Each	5.14	4.19	0.95	22.67
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 pk	2.91	2.38	0.53	22.27
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (whole wheat)	Each	6.14	5.59	0.55	9.84
Crix - salted crackers, White	288g (3 pk)	6.51	5.58	0.93	16.67
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	5.27	4.89	0.38	7.77
Beef - Fresh	1 lb	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Pigtail - salted	1 lb	12.10	10.22	1.88	18.40
Chicken - Leg Quarters	1 lb	3.64	3.24	0.40	12.35
Chicken - Backs	1 lb	2.64	2.18	0.46	21.10
Chicken - Wings	1 lb	5.72	4.85	0.87	17.94
Turkey Wings	1 lb	4.87	4.18	0.69	16.51
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	9.03	8.60	0.43	5.00
Corned beef	340g	10.11	8.38	1.73	20.64
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	1 lb	12.00	9.00	3.00	33.33
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	1 lb	4.00	5.00	-1.00	-20.00
Fish - Fresh (Robin)	1 lb	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
Codfish	1 lb	15.15	14.48	0.67	4.63
Sardine in soya oil	106g Tin	5.13	4.61	0.52	11.28
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.93	3.17	0.76	23.97
Powdered milk - full cream	1 lb	8.59	7.82	0.77	9.85
Eggs	1 Doz	12.10	10.49	1.61	15.35
Margarine	445g Tub	13.01	10.67	2.34	21.93
Soya bean oil	1Litre	16.69	14.72	1.97	13.38
Coconut oil	750ml Bottle	33.20	29.31	3.89	13.27
Bananas (ripe)	1 lb	1.74	1.58	0.16	10.13
Limes	1 lb	3.89	5.00	-1.11	-22.20
Tomatoes	1 lb	7.38	6.32	1.06	16.77
Sweet Potatoes	1 lb	2.99	3.01	-0.02	-0.66
Yams	1 lb	3.43	4.23	-0.80	-18.91
Sugar - Brown (loose)	1 lb	2.36	1.72	0.64	37.21
Sugar - White (loose)	1 lb	2.67	2.39	0.28	11.72
Ice cream	1 Litre Tub	18.06	16.87	1.19	7.05
Tomato Ketchup	750ml Bottle	9.53	7.00	2.53	36.14
Orange Juice	1 Litre box	8.38	7.04	1.34	19.03
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.95	5.78	0.17	2.94

Table 2.2
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2023 Compared With February 2022

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2023	February 2022		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	41.95	36.93	5.02	13.59
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	4.90	4.99	-0.09	-1.80
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.60	3.38	0.22	6.51
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	28.41	24.84	3.57	14.37
Vodka	750ml Bot.	51.26	49.03	2.23	4.55
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR					
Textile material - Cotton	1Yd.	14.09	13.73	0.36	2.62
Textile material - Tetrex	1Yd.	11.35	10.44	0.91	8.72
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	75.98	75.98	0.00	0.00
Men's Jeans (long)	Pair	64.62	69.98	-5.36	-7.66
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	113.46	129.00	-15.54	-12.05
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	73.19	70.50	2.69	3.82
Women's Blouse	Each	36.07	40.97	-4.90	-11.96
School shirt - white, size 10	Each	15.41	16.45	-1.04	-6.32
School overal , navy blue, size 8	Each	49.82	46.95	2.87	6.11
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY					
GAS AND OTHER FUELS					
Rent :					
Unfurnished House - 2 Bedrooms	Month	785.00	785.00	0.00	0.00
Unfurnished House - 3 Bedrooms	Month	750.00	750.00	0.00	0.00
Furnished Apartment - 2 Bedrooms	Month	812.50	812.50	0.00	0.00
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gallons	35.00	35.00	0.00	0.00
Electricity Consumption Charge	300 KWH	296.92	281.53	15.39	5.47
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	45.76	43.90	1.86	4.24
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE					
Bed - queen size	Each	2,737.72	2,537.72	200.00	7.88
Sheets - queen size, 300 thread count, 100% cotton	Each	203.14	169.95	33.19	19.53
Dinner forks	Each	3.86	4.95	-1.09	-22.02
Powder detergent	500g Pk	5.50	4.56	0.94	20.61
Toilet tissue, 280 sheets per roll	1 Roll	1.76	1.51	0.25	16.33

Table 2.3
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2023 Compared With February 2022

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2023	February 2022		
HEALTH					
Doctor's Fee - Gynaecologist	Visit	80.00	80.00	0.00	0.00
Doctor's Fee - General Practitioner	Visit	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
Blood test - CBC	Test	27.39	27.39	0.00	0.00
Drugs for Hypertension	Month supply	6.95	6.42	0.53	8.26
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	6.49	4.99	1.50	30.06
Dental Care	Visit	146.21	143.56	2.65	1.85
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	15.06	14.56	0.50	3.43
Vehicle License (car) - not exd. 3000 lbs	Year	680.00	680.00	0.00	0.00
Bus Fare - Mesopotamia	1-Way	3.50	3.00	0.50	16.67
Boat Fare - Bequia	1-Way	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
Parking fees	1 Hour	2.50	2.50	0.00	0.00
Airfare - SVG to Barbados	1-Way	558.59	385.87	172.72	44.76
COMMUNICATION					
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	1 Minute	0.08	0.08		
Telephone - Consumption Charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to Mobile - domestic (off network)	1 Minute	0.99	0.99	0.00	0.00
Internet	1 month	120.00	120.00	0.00	0.00
Cable TV charges (basic)	1 month	69.00	69.00	0.00	0.00
RECREATION AND CULTURE					
Television 43 " (smart TV)	Each	1,381.48	1,506.25	-124.77	-8.28
Tablet - 10.1"	Each	596.43	546.45	49.98	9.15
Laptop Computer - 8 GB	Each	1,262.19	1,240.88	21.31	1.72
Dog Food (Canned)	375 g Tin	12.37	10.22	2.15	21.04
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	400.00	400.00	0.00	0.00
Mathematics textbook	Each	88.42	86.55	1.87	2.16
Newspapers	Each	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00

Table 2.4
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2023 Compared With February 2022

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2023	February 2022		
EDUCATION					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	297.50	275.00	22.50	8.18
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	1350.00	1233.33	116.67	9.46
Secondary School Fee - Private	Term	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
Tertiary Education Tuition - undergraduate, social sciences	Annual	8140.80	8140.80	0.00	0.00
Private tutor	Per Session	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS					
Pizza, pepperoni	Each	19.50	17.75	1.75	9.86
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	15.00	12.00	3.00	25.00
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	20.00	15.00	5.00	33.33
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	21.85	18.75	3.10	16.53
Roti - Beef	Each	13.96	12.00	1.96	16.33
School meals - Bread and Chicken	Each	3.67	3.83	-0.16	-4.18
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES					
Women's Hairdressing (Relaxer)	Visit	72.46	69.82	2.64	3.78
Men's Haircut, Regular	Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Disposable diapers, Medium, 22pcs	1 pack	23.70	18.94	2.91	15.36
Toothpaste	170g Tube	13.68	11.22	2.46	21.93
Roll -on	75ml bottle	8.15	7.74	0.41	5.30
Sanitary napkins, regular, with wings	10 per pack	5.75	5.75	0.00	0.00
Toilet Soap	110g	4.34	3.51	0.83	23.65
Elderly care Services	Month	1800.00	1800.00	0.00	0.00
Day care services (children < 2 years)	Month	275.00	275.00	0.00	0.00
Health Insurance - Group (family) ≥3 Persons	Month	307.00	307.00	0.00	0.00
Motor Vehicle Insurance - 3rd party	Annual	432.62	432.62	0.00	0.00

Table 3
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100

	Groups	Weight	January 2023	February 2023	February 2022	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month January	Year February
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	142.9	143.7	126.8	0.6	13.3
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	130.8	132.3	129.3	1.1	2.3
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.5	104.6	104.7	0.1	-0.1
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	106.9	106.7	104.2	-0.2	2.4
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	125.7	126.0	114.0	0.2	10.5
06.	Health	1.79	121.3	124.9	118.0	3.0	5.8
07.	Transport	11.84	140.5	136.4	128.4	-2.9	6.2
08.	Communication	9.41	112.0	112.0	112.0	0.0	0.0
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	112.1	114.0	110.1	1.7	3.5
10.	Education	1.32	111.9	111.9	108.9	0.0	2.8
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	131.9	133.1	115.3	0.9	15.4
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	110.6	111.4	106.5	0.7	4.6
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	121.4	121.5	114.8	0.1	5.8

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for February 2023

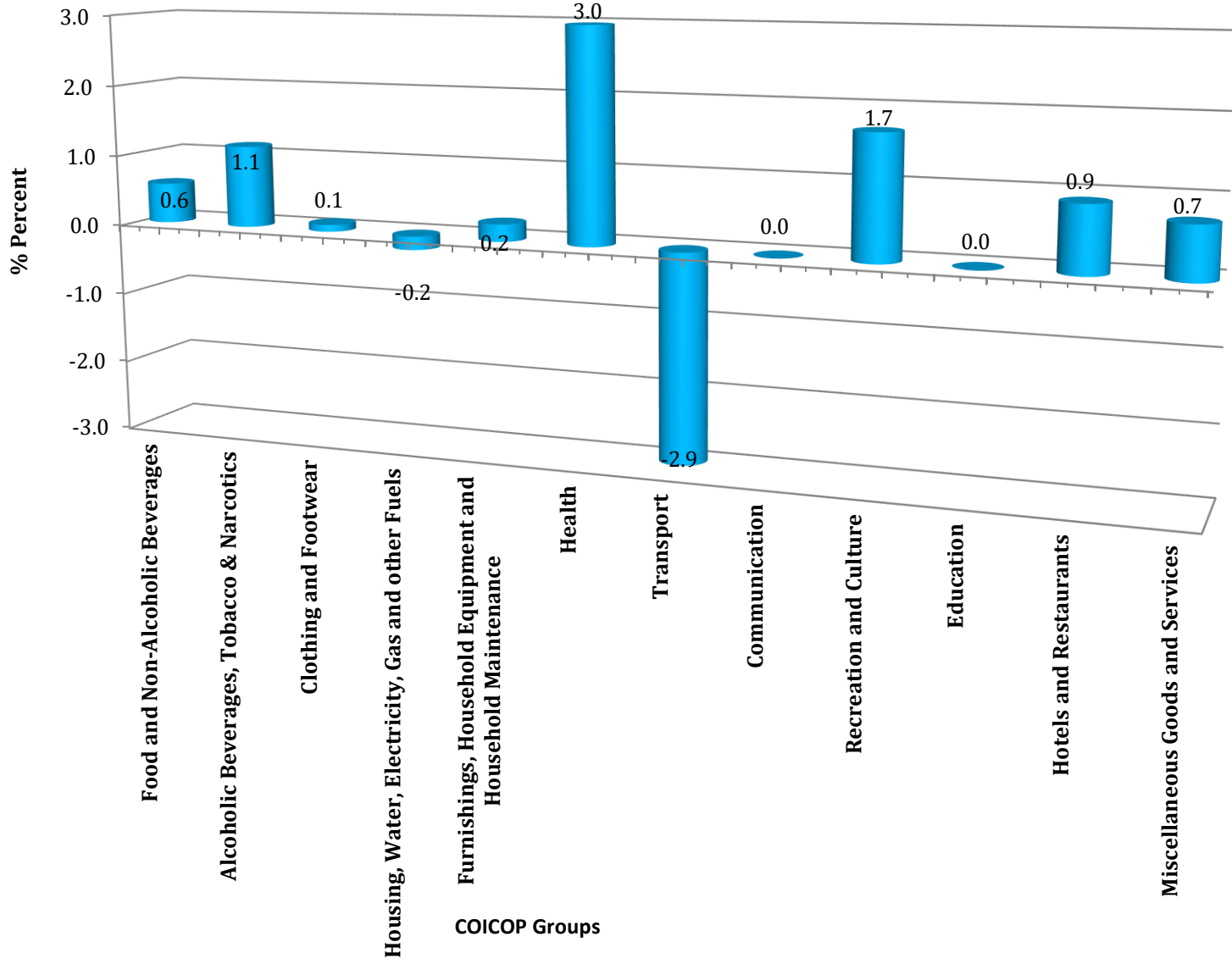


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	January 2023	February 2023	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						January 2023	February 2023		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	142.9	143.7	0.6	3,130.94	3,148.47	17.5	175.3
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	130.8	132.3	1.1	506.20	512.00	5.8	58.1
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.5	104.6	0.1	336.49	336.81	0.3	3.2
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	106.9	106.7	-0.2	3,213.41	3,207.40	-6.0	-60.1
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	125.7	126.0	0.2	828.36	830.34	2.0	19.8
6.	Health	1.79	121.3	124.9	3.0	217.13	223.57	6.4	64.4
7.	Transport	11.84	140.5	136.4	-2.9	1,663.52	1,614.98	-48.5	-485.4
8.	Communication	9.41	112.0	112.0	0.0	1,053.92	1,053.92	0.0	0.0
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	112.1	114.0	1.7	427.10	434.34	7.2	72.4
10.	Education	1.32	111.9	111.9	0.0	147.71	147.71	0.0	0.0
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	131.9	133.1	0.9	246.65	248.90	2.2	22.4
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	110.6	111.4	0.7	476.69	480.13	3.4	34.5
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	121.4	121.5	0.1	12,140.00	12,150.00	10.0	100.0

TABLE 5
Monthly Index - 2023
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	121.4	142.9	130.8	104.5	106.9	125.7	121.3	140.5	112.0	112.1	111.9	131.9	110.6
February	121.5	143.7	132.3	104.6	106.7	126.0	124.9	136.4	112.0	114.0	111.9	133.1	111.4