



# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



**THE STATISTICAL OFFICE**

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC PLANNING  
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**ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

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## APRIL 2023

The consumer price index recorded an increase of 1.0 percent for the month of April 2023, compared to 0.2 percent increase for the month of March 2023 (*see table 3*).

During the month of April 2023, the “All Items” index was recorded at 123.0 compared to 121.8 for the month of March 2023. Nine (9) groups recorded increases during the month namely, “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (3.4%), “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (2.6%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (1.8%), “Clothing and Footwear” (1.7%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (1.5%), “Recreation and Culture” (1.0), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.9%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.6), and “Communication” (0.3%). Two groups recorded a decrease; “Health” (1.5%) and “Transport” (1.3%), while “Education” was the sole group that remained unchanged during the month (*See table 3*).

The group index for “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” grew by 3.4 percent mainly due to increases in the cost of a hair cut; boys’ under 12 years (100%) and men’s (50%), as well as the cost of sanitary napkins (27.4%) and baby diapers (23.9%).

“Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” rose by 2.6 percent. This is attributable to a 16.2 percent increase in the price of electricity. This higher cost for electricity resulted from a rise in the fuel surcharge rate which moved from 52.45 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of March 2023 to 69.06 cents per kilowatt hour for April 2023.

The 3.8 percent increase in the group index for “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” was on account of higher prices for dinner forks (75.1%), a washing machine (26.7%), and a gas stove (16.7%).

The “Clothing and Footwear” Index grew by 1.7 percent as a result of increases in the prices for men’s boxer briefs (100%), boys’ socks (54.4%), vests (41.4%) and men’s socks (41.3%).

The index for “Hotels and Restaurants” rose by 1.5 percent due to increases in the price of a pizza (15.5%) and a sandwich (10.4%).

The “Recreation and Culture” index recorded a 1.0 percent growth. This growth was fuelled mainly by higher prices for a tablet (22.4%), dog food (16.3%) and dog vaccines (10.6%).

“Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” increased by 0.9 percent mainly as a result of an increase in the price of sparkling white wine (16.4%) and local white rum (4.8%).

The “Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages” group index recorded a 0.6 percent increase as a result of higher prices for a number of items namely; pineapple (43.3%), cucumber (38.3%), sweet pepper (24.0%), limes (19.7%), watermelons (19.6%), local cabbage (18.8%), cooking oil (17.0%) and whole-wheat small loaf (16.7%).

An increase in the price for a 1 day data plan (20.0%) accounted for the 0.3 percent growth in the “Communication” index.

Meanwhile, the 1.5 percent decline in the index for “Health” was attributed to lower prices for drugs that is being used for diabetes (35.5%), pain relievers (34.2%) and drugs for hypertension (20.2%).

The “Transport” index fell by 1.3 percent. This decline was mainly on account of decreases in the cost of a car battery (14.9%), an oil filter (8.1%) and passenger airfare from St Vincent and the Grenadines to London (7.1%) and St. Lucia (6.2%).

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 5.2 percent for the month of April 2023 compared to 4.4 percent for April 2022. The groups that accounted for the largest increases during the period were, “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (11.7%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (11.0%) “Hotels and Restaurants” (8.2%), and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (7.3%) (See table 3).

**The consumer price index increased by 1.0 percent for April 2023. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 5.2 due to relative price changes during the month of April 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
		April 2023	March 2023		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Small loaf, wholewheat	5 in pack	3.50	3.00	0.50	16.7
Cooking oil	900ml Bottle	24.22	20.70	3.52	17.0
Pineapple, imported	Lb	5.99	4.18	1.81	43.3
Watermelons	Lb	5.12	4.28	0.84	19.6
Limes	Lb	4.98	4.16	0.82	19.7
Cabbage, local	Lb	5.99	5.04	0.95	18.8
Cucumber	Lb	5.42	3.92	1.50	38.3
Sweet pepper	Lb	8.98	7.24	1.74	24.0
Sparkling White Wine	750ml Bottle	44.80	38.50	6.30	16.4
Rum - Local (White)	750ml Bottle	45.74	43.64	2.10	4.8
Vests (100% cotton)	Each	22.06	15.60	6.46	41.4
Men's Dress Socks	Each	21.97	15.55	6.42	41.3
Men's Boxer Briefs	2 pairs	40.00	20.00	20.00	100.0
Boys Socks	1 pair	6.95	4.50	2.45	54.4
Electricity	150Kwh	178.59	153.68	24.91	16.2
Washing machine	17Kg	3299.00	2602.77	696.23	26.7
Gas Stove	Each	1306.09	1118.73	187.36	16.7
Dinner Forks	Each	6.95	3.97	2.98	75.1
Car Tyre, 265-65-R17	Each	510.95	383.96	126.99	33.1
Data Plan, 1Day	1GB	6.00	5.00	1.00	20.0
Tablet, 10.1 inches	Each	546.45	446.48	99.97	22.4
Dog Food	375g Tin	14.39	12.37	2.02	16.3
Vaccines (dog)	Each	52.44	47.43	5.01	10.6
Personal pizza	Each	21.25	19.25	2.00	10.4
Sandwich	Each	29.75	25.75	4.00	15.5
Men's Haircut	1 Visit	15.00	10.00	5.00	50.0
Boy's Haircut	1 Visit	10.00	5.00	5.00	100.0
Baby diapers	32 pieces	57.35	46.30	11.05	23.9
Sanitary napkins	10 Pcs per pack	8.90	7.23	1.67	23.1
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Chicken Vienna sausages	130g Tin	3.40	4.35	-0.95	-21.8
Cabbage, imported	Lb	3.83	5.80	-1.97	-34.0
Broccoli, imported	Lb	13.35	19.19	-5.84	-30.4
Kidney Beans	454g Pack	5.50	8.95	-3.45	-38.5
Refrigerator, 12 Cu.Ft.	Each	2985.62	3392.75	-407.13	-12.0
Hypertension medication, 50mg	1 month's supply	7.00	8.77	-1.77	-20.2
Diabetes medication, 500mg	1 month's supply	5.48	8.49	-3.01	-35.5
Pain reliever, 500 mg	100 tablets	10.00	15.20	-5.20	-34.2
Car Battery	70 Amp	382.00	448.90	-66.90	-14.9
Oil Filter	Each	34.91	38.00	-3.09	-8.1
Passenger airfares from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to:					
<i>London</i>	Month	3006.80	3237.40	-230.60	-7.1
<i>St.Lucia</i>	One way	701.29	747.47	-46.18	-6.2

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		April 2023	April 2022		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Rice - Loose	1lb	1.99	1.92	0.07	3.65
Rice - Packaged	2kg	9.97	9.77	0.20	2.05
Flour - Loose	1 lb	1.89	1.59	0.30	18.87
Flour - Packaged ( white)	2kg	9.16	7.69	1.47	19.12
Flour - Packaged ( wholewheat)	2kg	9.60	7.97	1.63	20.45
Cornflakes	510g Box	15.62	12.72	2.90	22.80
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (white)	Each	5.21	4.34	0.87	20.05
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 pk	2.91	2.56	0.35	13.67
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (whole wheat)	Each	6.14	5.67	0.47	8.29
Crix - salted crackers, White	288g (3 pk)	6.53	5.99	0.54	9.02
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	5.15	5.12	0.03	0.59
Beef - Fresh	1 lb	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Pigtail - salted	1 lb	12.22	10.56	1.66	15.72
Chicken - Leg Quarters	1 lb	3.59	3.32	0.27	8.13
Chicken - Backs	1 lb	2.77	2.28	0.49	21.49
Chicken - Wings	1 lb	5.64	4.96	0.68	13.71
Turkey Wings	1 lb	5.25	4.33	0.92	21.25
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.95	8.86	0.09	1.02
Corned beef	340g	10.01	9.24	0.77	8.33
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	1 lb	12.93	9.00	3.93	43.67
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	1 lb	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Robin)	1 lb	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
Codfish	1 lb	14.82	15.12	-0.30	-1.98
Sardine in soya oil	106g Tin	5.18	4.88	0.30	6.15
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	4.17	3.17	1.00	31.55
Powdered milk - full cream	1 lb	8.55	7.99	0.56	7.01
Eggs	1 Doz	12.31	10.19	2.12	20.80
Margarine	445g Tub	13.20	10.83	2.37	21.88
Soya bean oil	1Litre	17.51	16.40	1.11	6.77
Coconut oil	750ml Bottle	38.85	29.31	9.54	32.55
Bananas (ripe)	1 lb	1.59	1.69	-0.10	-5.92
Limes	1 lb	4.98	4.94	0.04	0.81
Tomatoes	1 lb	6.45	6.81	-0.36	-5.29
Sweet Potatoes	1 lb	3.37	2.72	0.65	23.90
Yams	1 lb	3.43	3.91	-0.48	-12.28
Sugar - Brown ( loose)	1 lb	2.27	1.90	0.37	19.47
Sugar - White ( loose)	1 lb	2.61	2.39	0.22	9.21
Ice cream	1 Litre Tub	18.06	16.87	1.19	7.05
Tomato Ketchup	750ml Bottle	9.53	6.98	2.55	36.53
Orange Juice	1 Litre box	8.96	7.25	1.71	23.59
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.95	5.78	0.17	2.94

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		April 2023	April 2022		
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO &amp; NARCOTICS</b>					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	45.74	38.52	7.22	18.74
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	4.90	4.99	-0.09	-1.80
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.81	3.38	0.43	12.72
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	28.41	26.27	2.14	8.15
Vodka	750ml Bot.	51.72	50.60	1.12	2.21
<b>CLOTHING &amp; FOOTWEAR</b>					
Textile material - Cotton	1Yd.	14.09	13.73	0.36	2.62
Textile material - Tetrex	1Yd.	12.44	11.44	1.00	8.74
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	73.48	75.98	-2.50	-3.29
Men's Jeans ( long)	Pair	64.62	71.38	-6.76	-9.47
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	113.46	134.50	-21.04	-15.64
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	73.19	73.28	-0.09	-0.12
Women's Blouse	Each	36.73	40.97	-4.24	-10.35
School shirt - white, size 10	Each	16.45	16.45	0.00	0.00
School overal , navy blue, size 8	Each	49.82	46.95	2.87	6.11
<b>HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY</b>					
<b>GAS AND OTHER FUELS</b>					
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	361.18	331.41	29.77	8.98
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	45.76	43.90	1.86	4.24
<b>FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE</b>					
Bed - queen size	Each	2,866.61	2,537.72	328.89	12.96
Sheets - queen size, 300 thread count, 100% cotton	Each	199.69	169.95	29.74	17.50
Dinner forks	Each	6.95	4.95	2.00	40.40
Powder detergent	500g Pk	6.14	4.84	1.30	26.86
Toilet tissue, 280 sheets per roll	1 Roll	1.65	1.52	0.13	8.55



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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		April 2023	April 2022		
<b>HEALTH</b>					
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	6.70	6.81	-0.11	-1.62
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	4.99	4.99	0.00	0.00
Dental Care	Visit	149.47	143.56	5.91	4.12
<b>TRANSPORT</b>					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	15.68	14.69	0.99	6.74
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	477.09	385.87	91.22	23.64
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>					
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	1 Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
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
<b>RECREATION AND CULTURE</b>					
Television 43 " (smart TV)	Each	1,381.48	1,460.70	-79.22	-5.42
Tablet - 10.1"	Each	546.45	546.45	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer - 8 GB	Each	1,240.88	1,240.88	0.00	0.00
Dog Food (Canned)	375 g Tin	14.39	10.22	4.17	40.80
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

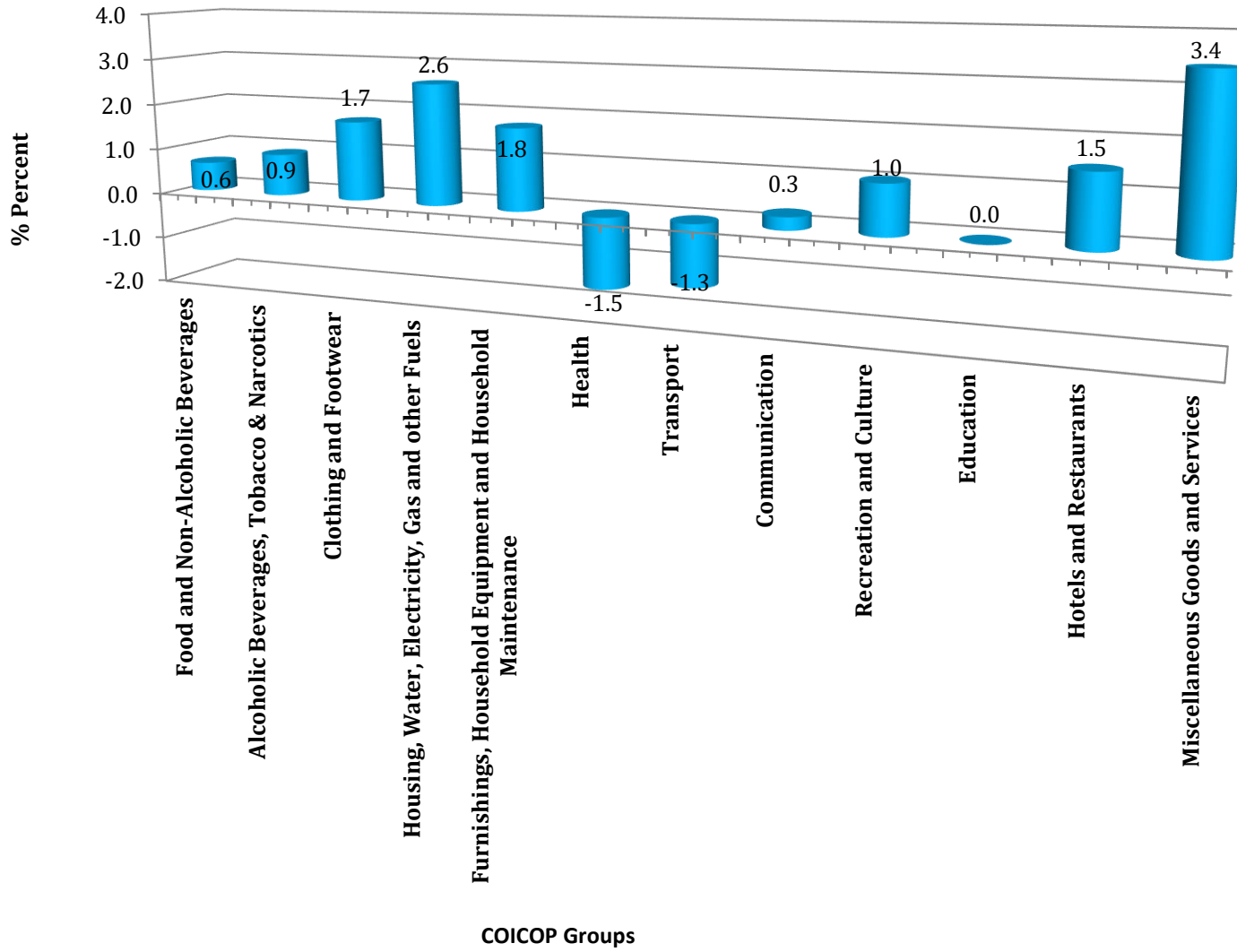
**Table 2.4**  
**Average Retail Price of Selected Items**  
**April 2023 Compared With April 2022**

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		April 2023	April 2022		
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	312.50	275.00	37.50	13.64
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	1350.00	1316.67	33.33	2.53
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
<b>HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS</b>					
Pizza, pepperoni	Each	21.75	17.75	4.00	22.54
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	15.00	15.00	0.00	0.00
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	21.85	21.85	0.00	0.00
Roti - Beef	Each	12.49	13.42	-0.93	-6.93
School meals - Bread and Chicken	Each	3.67	3.83	-0.16	-4.18
<b>MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES</b>					
Women's Hairdressing ( Relaxer )	Visit	72.46	69.82	2.64	3.78
Men's Haircut, Regular	Visit	15.00	10.00	5.00	50.00
Disposable diapers, Medium, 22pcs	1 pack	23.70	20.21	3.49	17.27
Toothpaste	170g Tube	13.32	12.39	0.93	7.51
Roll -on	75ml bottle	8.15	7.74	0.41	5.30
Sanitary napkins, regular, with wings	10 per pack	8.50	5.75	2.75	47.83
Toilet Soap	110g	4.34	3.64	0.70	19.23
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	459.28	432.62	26.66	6.16

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

	Groups	Weight	March 2023	April 2023	April 2022	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month March	Year April
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	144.2	145.1	129.9	0.6	11.7
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	132.9	134.1	129.2	0.9	3.8
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	105.1	106.9	104.6	1.7	2.2
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	107.6	110.4	107.5	2.6	2.7
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	125.3	127.5	114.9	1.8	11.0
06.	Health	1.79	125.3	123.4	119.7	-1.5	3.1
07.	Transport	11.84	135.9	134.1	129.1	-1.3	3.9
08.	Communication	9.41	111.8	112.1	112.0	0.3	0.1
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	114.6	115.8	110.1	1.0	5.2
10.	Education	1.32	113.1	113.1	108.9	0.0	3.9
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	134.3	136.3	126.0	1.5	8.2
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	111.5	115.3	107.5	3.4	7.3
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>121.8</b>	<b>123.0</b>	<b>116.9</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>5.2</b>

**Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for April 2023**



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

	Groups	Weight	March 2023	April 2023	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						March 2023	April 2023		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	144.2	145.1	0.6	3,159.42	3,179.14	19.7	16.4
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	132.9	134.1	0.9	514.32	518.97	4.6	3.9
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	105.1	106.9	1.7	338.42	344.22	5.8	4.8
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	107.6	110.4	2.6	3,234.46	3,318.62	84.2	70.1
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	125.3	127.5	1.8	825.73	840.23	14.5	12.1
6.	Health	1.79	125.3	123.4	-1.5	224.29	220.89	-3.4	-2.8
7.	Transport	11.84	135.9	134.1	-1.3	1,609.06	1,587.74	-21.3	-17.8
8.	Communication	9.41	111.8	112.1	0.3	1,052.04	1,054.86	2.8	2.4
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	114.6	115.8	1.0	436.63	441.20	4.6	3.8
10.	Education	1.32	113.1	113.1	0.0	149.29	149.29	0.0	0.0
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	134.3	136.3	1.5	251.14	254.88	3.7	3.1
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	111.5	115.3	3.4	480.57	496.94	16.4	13.6
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>121.8</b>	<b>123.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>12,180.00</b>	<b>12,300.00</b>	<b>120.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**TABLE 5**  
**Monthly Index - 2023**  
**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	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
March	121.8	144.2	132.9	105.1	107.6	125.3	125.3	135.9	111.8	114.6	113.1	134.3	111.5
April	123.0	145.1	134.1	106.9	110.4	127.5	123.4	134.1	112.1	115.8	113.1	136.3	115.3