



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



THE STATISTICAL OFFICE

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

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
Analysis –	1
Table No.	
1 Average Retail Price of Selected Items	4
2 Average Retail Price of Selected Items July 2023 compared With July 2022	5
3 The Consumer Price Index by main groups	9
4 The Consumer Price Index contribution to change by Groups	11
5 Monthly Items by Group	12
Chart No.	
1 COICOP Percentage Change for the Month of July 2023	10

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July 2023

The consumer price index recorded an increase of 0.3 percent for the month of July 2023, compared to 1.1 percent increase for the month of June 2023 (*See table 3*).

During the month of July 2023, the “All Items” index was recorded at 125.4 compared to 125.0 for the month of June 2023. Seven (7) groups recorded increases during the month, namely; “Transport” (3.5%), “Clothing and Footwear” (0.9%), “Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages” (0.7%), “Alcoholic, Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (0.4%), “Recreation and Culture” (0.3%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.3%) and “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.2%). Two (2) groups recorded a decrease; “Health” (1.9%) and “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (1.7%). Three (3) group remained unchanged; “Communication”, “Education” and “Hotels and Restaurants”, (*See table 3*).

The 3.5 percent increase in the “Transport” index was as a result of an increase the prices for maintenance services for motor vehicles. This includes engine oil change (66.7%), spark plugs replacement (50.0%), wheel alignment (33.3%) and transmission oil change (25.0%). Also, there was an increase in the passenger airfare from St Vincent and the Grenadines to New York (62.9%).

The group index for “Clothing and Footwear” increased by 0.9 percent due mainly to an increase in the price of panties (66.7%), men's dress shoes (25.6%) and belts (25.0%).

The 0.7 percent increase in the index for “Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages” is due to an increase in the price of several food items which includes; pumpkin (66.9%), imported tomatoes (39.9%), red apples (27.0%), flaked tuna (19.1%), loose curry (13.0%), English

potatoes (10.9%), spaghetti (7.4%), peanuts (7.3%), smoke herring (6.2%), mutton (6.1%), condensed milk (4.4%), loose rice (3.4%) and chicken wings (1.6%).

“Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” increased by 0.4 percent due to higher prices for port wine (7.6%), red wine (4.7%), cigarette (1.8%) and a whiskey (1.6%).

Higher prices for cat food (12.9%), a language arts textbook (8.7%), dog food (7.0%) and a mathematics textbook (4.2%) were responsible for the 0.3 percent increase in the group index for “Recreation and Culture”.

Similarly, “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” increase by 0.3 percent as a result of increases in the prices for toothpaste (58.8%) and mouthwash (10.1%).

“Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” grew by 0.2 percent. This was due to an increase in the price for bleach (41.7%), mattress (15.7%) and dishwashing liquid (2.2%).

The 1.9 percent decline in the index for “Health” was attributed to lower prices for pain killers (35.5%), drugs for hypertension (8.7%) and a blood pressure monitor (1.4%).

The “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” group index recorded a decrease of 1.7 percent due mainly to a decrease in the price of electricity (9.5%). This lower cost for electricity resulted from a fall in the fuel surcharge rate which moved from 65.78 cents per kilowatt hour for June 2023 to 54.77 cents per kilowatt hour for July 2023.

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 4.7 percent for the month of July 2023 compared to 6.1 percent for July 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” (10.9%), “Transport” (8.5%), “Recreation and Culture” (7.8%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (6.8%), and “Hotels and Restaurants” (5.9%), *(See table 3)*.

The consumer price index increased by 0.3 percent for July 2023. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 4.7 due to relative price changes during the month of July 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
		July 2023	June 2023		
INCREASED					
Rice, loose	1lb	2.13	2.06	0.07	3.4
Pasta, spaghetti	400g, Pk	4.37	4.07	0.30	7.4
Mutton, fresh	1lb	19.22	18.11	1.11	6.1
Chicken, wings	1lb	6.18	6.08	0.10	1.6
Smoke herring	1lb	5.28	4.97	0.31	6.2
Condensed milk	397g, Tin	5.45	5.22	0.23	4.4
Flaked tuna	142g, Tin	4.80	4.03	0.77	19.1
Red apples	1lb	8.47	6.67	1.80	27.0
Peanuts	340g, Tin	17.45	16.27	1.18	7.3
Tomatoes, imported	1lb	9.95	7.11	2.84	39.9
Pumpkin, local	1lb	5.69	3.41	2.28	66.9
English potatoes	1lb	3.25	2.93	0.32	10.9
Curry, loose	1lb	14.89	13.18	1.71	13.0
Whiskey	750ml, Bottle	154.52	152.13	2.39	1.6
Port wine	750ml, Bottle	30.55	28.40	2.15	7.6
Red wine	750ml, Bottle	35.57	33.98	1.59	4.7
Cigarettes	10 Pkt	3.88	3.81	0.07	1.8
Panties	Each	5.00	3.00	2.00	66.7
Belts	Each	15.00	12.00	3.00	25.0
Men's dress shoes	Pair	139.00	110.67	28.33	25.6
Mattress	Each	899.00	777.20	121.80	15.7
Bleach	64floz, Bottle	17.10	12.07	5.03	41.7
Dishwashing liquid	750ml, Bottle	11.70	11.45	0.25	2.2
Oil change, engine oil	Service	50.00	30.00	20.00	66.7
Oil change, transmission oil	Service	50.00	40.00	10.00	25.0
Spark plugs replacement	Service	150.00	100.00	50.00	50.0
Wheel alignment, small vehicles	Service	40.00	30.00	10.00	33.3
Passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to: <i>New York, U.S.A</i>	1 month	3691.32	2265.96	1425.36	62.9
Dog food	17 lb, Pk	129.72	121.21	8.51	7.0
Cat food	156g, Tin	5.62	4.98	0.64	12.9
Language Arts Textbook	Each	43.27	39.82	3.45	8.7
Mathematics Textbook	Each	41.80	40.12	1.68	4.2
Toothpaste	70g, Tube	10.97	6.91	4.06	58.8
Mouthwash	1L, Bottle	17.40	15.80	1.60	10.1
DECREASED					
Hypertensive drugs	28 Tablets	5.48	6.00	-0.52	-8.7
Pain killers	20 Tablets	4.47	6.93	-2.46	-35.5
Blood pressure monitor	Each	230.00	233.37	-3.37	-1.4
Electricity consumption	150 kWh	157.16	173.67	-16.51	-9.5

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		July 2023	July 2022		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Rice - Loose	1lb	1.95	2.13	-0.18	-8.45
Rice - Packaged	2kg	9.73	9.77	-0.04	-0.41
Flour - Loose	1 lb	1.92	1.77	0.15	8.47
Flour - Packaged (white)	2kg	9.16	8.26	0.90	10.90
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2kg	9.62	8.71	0.91	10.45
Cornflakes	510g Box	15.59	13.09	2.50	19.10
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (white)	Each	5.42	4.84	0.58	11.98
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 pk	2.91	2.74	0.17	6.20
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (whole wheat)	Each	6.03	5.59	0.44	7.87
Crix - salted crackers, White	288g (3 pk)	6.53	6.04	0.49	8.11
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	5.38	4.85	0.53	10.93
Beef - Fresh	1 lb	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Pigtail - salted	1 lb	12.73	12.14	0.59	4.86
Chicken - Leg Quarters	1 lb	3.71	3.68	0.03	0.82
Chicken - Backs	1 lb	2.68	2.25	0.43	19.11
Chicken - Wings	1 lb	5.00	4.63	0.37	7.99
Turkey Wings	1 lb	6.18	5.74	0.44	7.67
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	9.01	8.75	0.26	2.97
Corned beef	340g	9.99	9.62	0.37	3.85
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	1 lb	12.00	9.00	3.00	33.33
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	16.14	15.62	0.52	3.33
Sardine in soya oil	106g Tin	5.41	5.03	0.38	7.55
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	4.17	3.42	0.75	21.93
Powdered milk - full cream	1 lb	8.52	8.00	0.52	6.50
Eggs	1 Doz	12.31	10.16	2.15	21.16
Margarine	445g Tub	13.15	11.33	1.82	16.06
Soya bean oil	1Litre	17.51	17.21	0.30	1.74
Coconut oil	750ml Bottle	36.92	32.54	4.38	13.46
Bananas (ripe)	1 lb	1.59	1.59	0.00	0.00
Limes	1 lb	4.81	4.64	0.17	3.66
Tomatoes	1 lb	6.08	5.84	0.24	4.11
Sweet Potatoes	1 lb	4.72	4.72	0.00	0.00
Yams	1 lb	4.24	2.72	1.52	55.88
Sugar - Brown (loose)	1 lb	2.27	1.93	0.34	17.62
Sugar - White (loose)	1 lb	2.62	2.47	0.15	6.07
Ice cream	1 Litre Tub	18.06	18.55	-0.49	-2.64
Tomato Ketchup	750ml Bottle	9.52	7.06	2.46	34.84
Orange Juice	1 Litre box	5.95	5.95	0.00	0.00
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	9.45	7.59	1.86	24.51

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		July 2023	July 2022		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	45.74	38.52	7.22	18.74
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	4.95	4.82	0.13	2.70
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.88	3.60	0.28	7.78
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	30.55	26.27	4.28	16.29
Vodka	750ml Bot.	51.92	50.74	1.18	2.33
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR					
Textile material - Cotton	1Yd.	14.09	11.35	2.74	24.14
Textile material - Tetrex	1Yd.	12.44	12.44	0.00	0.00
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	75.98	75.98	0.00	0.00
Men's Jeans (long)	Pair	68.98	69.95	-0.97	-1.39
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	127.62	134.50	-6.88	-5.12
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	73.19	73.28	-0.09	-0.12
Women's Blouse	Each	36.84	40.97	-4.13	-10.08
School shirt - white, size 10	Each	16.20	16.20	0.00	0.00
School overal , navy blue, size 8	Each	49.82	48.95	0.87	1.78
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	318.31	371.77	-53.46	-14.38
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	45.76	45.76	0.00	0.00
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE					
Bed - queen size	Each	2,866.50	2,537.72	328.78	12.96
Sheets - queen size, 300 thread count, 100% cotton	Each	195.95	169.95	26.00	15.30
Dinner forks	Each	6.95	4.95	2.00	40.40
Powder detergent	500g Pk	5.32	4.92	0.40	8.13
Toilet tissue, 280 sheets per roll	1 Roll	1.53	1.56	-0.03	-1.92

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		July 2023	July 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	6.59	5.73	0.86	15.01
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	5.25	5.25	0.00	0.00
Dental Care	Visit	149.47	143.56	5.91	4.12
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	15.68	16.41	-0.73	-4.45
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	523.27	385.87	137.40	35.61
COMMUNICATION					
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	122.86	120.00	2.86	2.38
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	1,460.70	-79.22	-5.42
Tablet - 10.1"	Each	546.45	546.45	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer - 8 GB	Each	1,712.39	1,240.88	471.51	38.00
Dog Food (Canned)	375 g Tin	13.24	10.82	2.42	22.37
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	500.00	400.00	100.00	25.00
Mathematics textbook	Each	88.17	86.55	1.62	1.87
Newspapers	Each	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		July 2023	July 2022		
EDUCATION					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	312.50	275.00	37.50	13.64
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	1350.00	1350.00	0.00	0.00
Secondary School Fee - Private	Term	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
Tertiary Education Tuition - undergraduate, social sciences	Annual	8140.00	8140.00	0.00	0.00
Private tutor	Per Session	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS					
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	12.00	0.49	4.08
School meals - Bread and Chicken	Each	4.00	3.83	0.17	4.44
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES					
Women's Hairdressing (Relaxer)	Visit	72.46	72.46	0.00	0.00
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	13.65	12.72	0.93	7.31
Roll -on	75ml bottle	8.15	8.15	0.00	0.00
Sanitary napkins, regular, with wings	10 per pack	8.50	5.75	2.75	47.83
Toilet Soap	110g	4.34	3.60	0.74	20.56
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	June 2023	July 2023	July 2022	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month June	Year July
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	148.6	149.7	134.0	0.7	11.7
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	134.3	134.8	131.1	0.4	2.8
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	106.8	107.8	105.5	0.9	2.2
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	109.9	108.0	110.8	-1.7	-2.5
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	129.9	130.1	117.3	0.2	10.9
06.	Health	1.79	123.4	121.0	121.8	-1.9	-0.7
07.	Transport	11.84	142.4	147.4	135.8	3.5	8.5
08.	Communication	9.41	112.7	112.7	112.0	0.0	0.6
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	118.4	118.8	110.2	0.3	7.8
10.	Education	1.32	113.1	113.1	108.9	0.0	3.9
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	135.3	135.3	127.8	0.0	5.9
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	115.5	115.9	108.5	0.3	6.8
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	125.0	125.4	119.8	0.3	4.7

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for July 2023

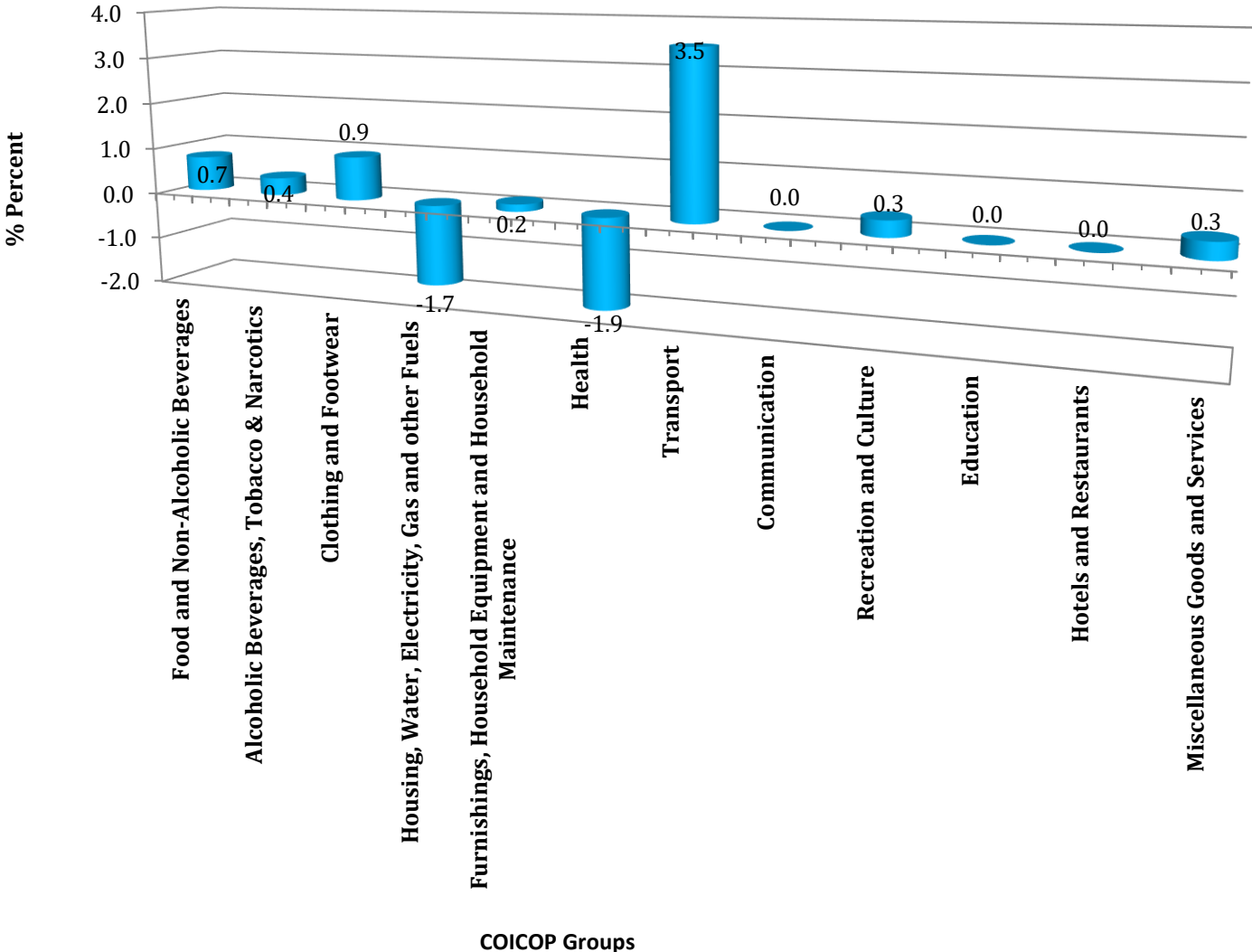


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	June 2023	July 2023	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						June 2023	July 2023		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	148.6	149.7	0.7	3,255.83	3,279.93	24.1	60.3
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	134.3	134.8	0.4	519.74	521.68	1.9	4.8
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	106.8	107.8	0.9	343.90	347.12	3.2	8.0
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	109.9	108.0	-1.7	3,303.59	3,246.48	-57.1	-142.8
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	129.9	130.1	0.2	856.04	857.36	1.3	3.3
6.	Health	1.79	123.4	121.0	-1.9	220.89	216.59	-4.3	-10.7
7.	Transport	11.84	142.4	147.4	3.5	1,686.02	1,745.22	59.2	148.0
8.	Communication	9.41	112.7	112.7	0.0	1,060.51	1,060.51	0.0	0.0
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	118.4	118.8	0.3	451.10	452.63	1.5	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	135.3	135.3	0.0	253.01	253.01	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	115.5	115.9	0.3	497.81	499.53	1.7	4.3
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	125.0	125.4	0.3	12,500.00	12,540.00	40.0	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
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
May	123.6	145.5	134.0	106.7	109.1	130.6	123.0	139.6	112.1	119.3	113.1	134.9	115.4
June	125.0	148.6	134.3	106.8	109.9	129.9	123.4	142.4	112.7	118.4	113.1	135.3	115.5
July	125.4	149.7	134.8	107.8	108.0	130.1	121.0	147.4	112.7	118.8	113.1	135.3	115.9