



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



THE STATISTICAL OFFICE

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

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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AUGUST 2023

The consumer price index recorded a decrease of 0.2 percent for the month of August 2023, compared to 0.3 percent increase for the month of July 2023 (*See table 3*).

During the month of August 2023, the “All Items” index was recorded at 125.2 compared to 125.4 for the month of July 2023. Five (5) groups recorded increases during the month, namely; “Health” (1.2%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.5%), “Transport” (0.4%), “Alcoholic, Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (0.1%), and “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.1%). Five (5) groups recorded a decrease; “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (1.0%), “Recreation and Culture” (0.8%), “Clothing and Footwear” (0.6%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.4%) and “Communication” (0.2%). Two (2) group remained unchanged; “Education” and “Hotels and Restaurants”, (*See table 3*).

The “Health” index grew by 1.2 percent due to an increase in the price of pain relieving drugs; 75mg (22.6%) and 325mg (9.8%).

The 0.5 percent increase in the “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” index was due to higher prices for toilet soap (8.6%), panty liners (5.6%) and mouthwash (4.9%).

The index for “Transport” increased by 0.4 percent due to higher prices for passenger airfares from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to Trinidad and Tobago (39.6%) and St. Lucia (10.3%).

“Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” increased by 0.1 percent due to a 6.3 percent increase in imported white rum.

Similarly, the “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” index recorded a 0.1 percent increase. This was attributed to higher prices for several food items, namely: cornflakes (34.9%), sardines (16.9%), local tomatoes (9.5%), coconut slice (9.5%), imported broccoli (7.9%) and onions (7.5%).

Meanwhile the “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” index recorded a decline of 1.0 percent. This was due to a reduction in the cost of cooking gas (17.4%) and a 1.9 percent reduction in the cost of electricity.

Lower prices for dog food (29.8%) and a tablet (18.3%) were responsible for the 0.8 percent decrease in the group index for “Recreation and Culture”.

The nine percent decrease in the textile material Tetrex accounted for the 0.6 percent decline in the “Clothing and Footwear” group index.

“Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” group index registered a 0.4 percent downward movement due to the reduction in the price of toilet paper (12.5%) and a gas stove (5.6%).

A reduction in the price of a cell phone (6.4%) accounted for the 0.2 percent decline in the “Communication” index.

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 3.8 percent for the month of August 2023 compared to 6.6 percent for August 2022. The groups that accounted for the largest increases during the period were “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (10.1%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (9.7%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (7.3%), “Transport” (6.7%), “Recreation and Culture” (6.4%), and “Hotels and Restaurants” (5.9%), *(See table 3).*

The consumer price index decreased by 0.2 percent for August 2023. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 3.8 due to relative price changes during the month of August 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
		August 2023	July 2023		
INCREASED					
Cornflakes	340g, Box	37.85	28.05	9.80	34.9
Coconut Slice	Each	1.73	1.58	0.15	9.5
Sardines	106g, Tin	5.11	4.37	0.74	16.9
Onion	Lb	3.74	3.48	0.26	7.5
Broccoli (imported)	Lb	14.39	13.34	1.05	7.9
Tomatoes (local)	Lb	6.66	6.08	0.58	9.5
White Rum (imported)	750ml, Bottle	51.84	48.77	3.07	6.3
Pain reliever, 325mg	30 tablets	8.09	7.37	0.72	9.8
Pain reliever, 75mg	20 tablets	5.48	4.47	1.01	22.6
Passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to:					
<i>St.Lucia</i>	One way	701.29	636.08	65.21	10.3
<i>Trinidad and Tobago</i>	One way	944.67	676.51	268.16	39.6
Mouthwash	500ml, Bottle	27.52	26.24	1.28	4.9
Panty Liners	24 pcs	5.68	5.38	0.30	5.6
Toilet Soap	110g	5.16	4.75	0.41	8.6
DECREASED					
Hot dog loaf, wholewheat	6 in Pk	3.95	4.80	-0.85	-17.7
Red apples	Lb	6.20	8.47	-2.27	-26.8
Cucumbers	Lb	3.92	5.02	-1.10	-21.9
Textile material- Tetrex, 60"	1 Yard	11.32	12.44	-1.12	-9.0
Electricity	150Kwh	154.25	157.16	-2.91	-1.9
LPG Cooking gas:					
20 Lb Cylinder	Each	37.95	45.76	-7.81	-17.1
25 Lb Cylinder	Each	46.45	56.20	-9.75	-17.3
100 Lb Cylinder	Each	180.25	219.50	-39.25	-17.9
Gas Stove, 4 Burner - 24"	Each	1700.00	1800.00	-100.00	-5.6
Toilet Paper	500 sheets	2.25	2.57	-0.32	-12.5
Drugs for diabetes	1 month's supply	5.48	6.00	-0.52	-8.7
Car Tyre, 265-65-R17	Each	548.20	649.28	-101.08	-15.6
Passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to:					
<i>Miami</i>	1 month	2132.26	2776.26	-644.00	-23.2
<i>Barbados</i>	One way	477.09	532.27	-55.18	-10.4
Cellphone, 8 GB	Each	1593.99	1703.22	-109.23	-6.4
Tablet, 10.1 inches	Each	446.18	546.45	-100.27	-18.3
Dog Food	22.7Kg, Pk	129.90	185.01	-55.11	-29.8

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2023	August 2022		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Rice - Loose	1lb	2.13	1.95	0.18	9.23
Rice - Packaged	2kg	9.73	9.77	-0.04	-0.41
Flour - Loose	1 lb	1.92	1.90	0.02	1.05
Flour - Packaged (white)	2kg	9.16	8.82	0.34	3.85
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2kg	9.62	9.11	0.51	5.60
Cornflakes	510g Box	15.59	13.97	1.62	11.60
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (white)	Each	5.42	4.96	0.46	9.27
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 pk	2.91	2.74	0.17	6.20
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (whole wheat)	Each	6.26	5.92	0.34	5.74
Crix - salted crackers, White	288g (3 pk)	6.53	6.04	0.49	8.11
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	5.53	4.89	0.64	13.09
Beef - Fresh	1 lb	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Pigtail - salted	1 lb	12.58	12.90	-0.32	-2.48
Chicken - Leg Quarters	1 lb	3.83	3.91	-0.08	-2.05
Chicken - Backs	1 lb	2.66	2.37	0.29	12.24
Chicken - Wings	1 lb	6.12	6.16	-0.04	-0.65
Turkey Wings	1 lb	5.03	4.43	0.60	13.54
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	9.04	8.82	0.22	2.49
Corned beef	340g	9.97	9.64	0.33	3.42
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	16.11	15.63	0.48	3.07
Sardine in soya oil	106g Tin	5.36	4.99	0.37	7.41
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	4.17	3.42	0.75	21.93
Powdered milk - full cream	1 lb	8.52	9.17	-0.65	-7.09
Eggs	1 Doz	12.54	10.16	2.38	23.43
Margarine	445g Tub	13.61	11.14	2.47	22.17
Soya bean oil	1Litre	17.87	16.75	1.12	6.69
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	6.66	6.72	-0.06	-0.89
Sweet Potatoes	1 lb	3.73	2.72	1.01	37.13
Yams	1 lb	5.67	4.72	0.95	20.13
Sugar - Brown (loose)	1 lb	2.27	2.04	0.23	11.27
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	9.46	7.13	2.33	32.68
Orange Juice	1 Litre box	9.45	7.85	1.60	20.38
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.95	5.95	0.00	0.00

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2023	August 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	26.98	3.57	13.23
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.	11.32	12.44	-1.12	-9.00
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	75.98	75.98	0.00	0.00
Men's Jeans (long)	Pair	68.98	75.46	-6.48	-8.59
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	40.01	-3.17	-7.92
School shirt - white, size 10	Each	16.45	16.20	0.25	1.54
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	312.49	358.99	-46.50	-12.95
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	37.95	45.76	-7.81	-17.07
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE					
Bed - queen size	Each	2,866.61	2,537.72	328.89	12.96
Sheets - queen size, 300 thread count, 100% cotton	Each	194.95	169.95	25.00	14.71
Dinner forks	Each	6.95	4.95	2.00	40.40
Powder detergent	500g Pk	5.27	4.92	0.35	7.11
Toilet tissue, 280 sheets per roll	1 Roll	1.53	1.48	0.05	3.38

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2023	August 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	4.99	5.25	-0.26	-4.95
Dental Care	Visit	149.47	143.56	5.91	4.12
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	15.68	18.16	-2.48	-13.66
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
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	446.48	546.45	-99.97	-18.29
Laptop Computer - 8 GB	Each	1,779.04	1,240.88	538.16	43.37
Dog Food (Canned)	375 g Tin	13.86	10.82	3.04	28.10
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
August 2023 Compared With August 2022

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2023	August 2022		
EDUCATION					
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
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	21.10	2.60	12.32
Toothpaste	170g Tube	12.97	12.72	0.25	1.97
Roll -on	75ml bottle	8.15	8.15	0.00	0.00
Sanitary napkins, regular, with wings	10 per pack	8.87	5.75	3.12	54.26
Toilet Soap	110g	4.97	3.60	1.37	38.06
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	July 2023	August 2023	August 2022	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month July	Year August
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	149.7	149.9	136.7	0.1	9.7
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	134.8	134.9	131.2	0.1	2.8
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	107.8	107.2	106.3	-0.6	0.8
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	108.0	106.9	110.4	-1.0	-3.2
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	130.1	129.6	117.7	-0.4	10.1
06.	Health	1.79	121.0	122.5	121.8	1.2	0.6
07.	Transport	11.84	147.4	148.0	138.7	0.4	6.7
08.	Communication	9.41	112.7	112.5	112.0	-0.2	0.4
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	118.8	117.9	110.8	-0.8	6.4
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	115.9	116.5	108.6	0.5	7.3
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	125.4	125.2	120.6	-0.2	3.8

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for August 2023

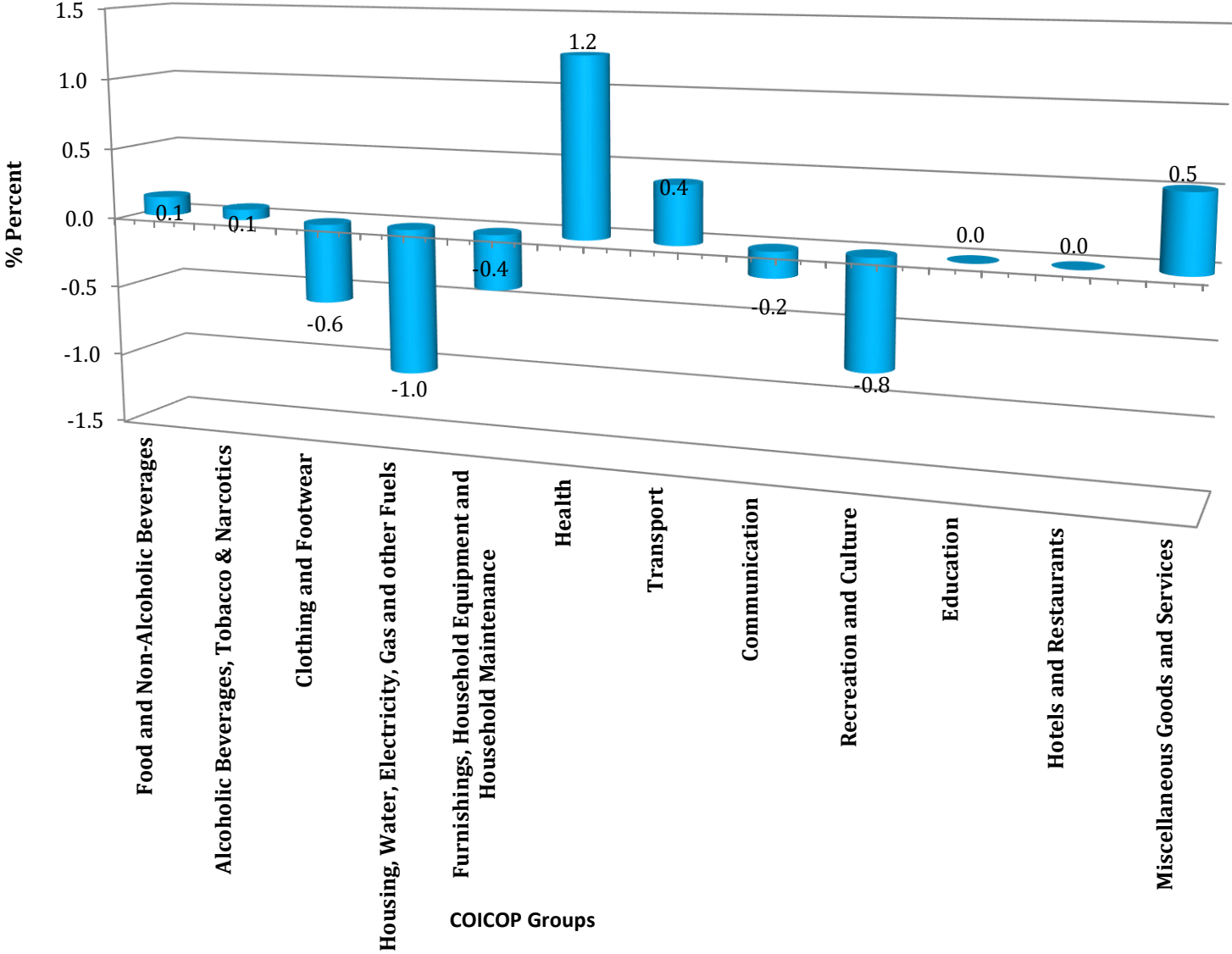


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	July 2023	August 2023	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						July 2023	August 2023		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	149.7	149.9	0.1	3,279.93	3,284.31	4.4	21.9
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	134.8	134.9	0.1	521.68	522.06	0.4	1.9
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	107.8	107.2	-0.6	347.12	345.18	-1.9	-9.7
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	108.0	106.9	-1.0	3,246.48	3,213.41	-33.1	-165.3
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	130.1	129.6	-0.4	857.36	854.06	-3.3	-16.5
6.	Health	1.79	121.0	122.5	1.2	216.59	219.28	2.7	13.4
7.	Transport	11.84	147.4	148.0	0.4	1,745.22	1,752.32	7.1	35.5
8.	Communication	9.41	112.7	112.5	-0.2	1,060.51	1,058.63	-1.9	-9.4
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	118.8	117.9	-0.8	452.63	449.20	-3.4	-17.1
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	115.9	116.5	0.5	499.53	502.12	2.6	12.9
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	125.0	125.2	0.2	12,500.00	12,520.00	20.0	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
August	125.2	149.9	134.9	107.2	106.9	129.6	122.5	148.0	112.5	117.9	113.1	135.3	116.5