



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



THE STATISTICAL OFFICE

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

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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December 2023

The consumer price index remained unchanged for the month of December 2023 compared to November 2023 (*See table 3*).

During the month of December 2023, the “All Items” index was recorded at 126.5 similar to the month of November 2023. Five (5) groups recorded increased during the month; “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (2.0%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.5%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.3%), “Clothing and Footwear” (0.2%) and “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (0.1%). Four (4) groups recorded decreases during the month; “Transport” (1.7%), “Housing, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (1.4%), “Health” (0.5%) and “Recreation and Culture” (0.4%).

The group index for “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” grew by 2.0 percent due to an increase in the price of several food items which includes: sweet peppers (40.0%), eggs (25.1%), pork chops (22.9%), beef (20.0%), cucumbers (18.9%), local carrots (16.7%), ripe bananas (12.0%), packaged whole wheat flour (11.9%), apples (10.0%) and imported cabbage (8.2%).

The 0.5 percent increase in the group index for “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” is due mainly to an increase of 22.3 percent in the price of a drinking glass and 6.9 percent increase in the price of a dinner fork.

“Miscellaneous Goods and Services” increased by 0.3 percent due mainly to a higher price for a bottle of mouthwash (9.9%) and a bath soap (1.5%).

The increase of 0.2 percent in the group index for “Clothing and Footwear” is due mainly to an increase of 19.2 percent for a pair of school shoes for girls.

“Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” grew by 0.1 percent as a result of a 7.5 percent increase in the price of gin and 6.1% for a bottle of vodka.

Meanwhile, the “Transport” index declined by 1.7 percent due to a lower price for passenger airfare from St Vincent and the Grenadines to Miami (34.5%) and London (27.2%). Also, a 20.7 reduction in the price of a car tyre, 10.0 percent decline in the price of diesel and 5.9 percent for petrol.

The 1.4 percent decrease in the group index for “Housing, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” is due mainly to a reduction in the cost of electricity by 7.6%. This reduction resulted from a lower fuel surcharge rate of 58.55 cents per kilowatt hour for December 2023 compared to 67.45 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of November 2023.

“Health” declined by 0.5 percent due to a 19.9 percent decrease in the cost of an anti-inflammatory pain medicine while “Recreation and Culture” declined by 0.4 percent due to a 15.2 percent reduction in the price of a laptop.

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 4.0 percent for the month of December 2023 compared to 6.7 percent for December 2022. The groups that represented the largest increases during the period were “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (9.4%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (8.0%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (7.9%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (5.2%), “Clothing and Footwear” (5.1%) and “Recreation and Culture” (4.4%) (*See table 3*).

The consumer price index remained unchanged for December 2023. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 4.0 due to relative price changes during the month of December 2023 compared with the same period in the previous year.

REVIEW OF 2023

A review of the Consumer Price Index for the year 2023 showed that the annual average “Point-to-Point” inflation rate was 4.6 percent compared to 5.7 percent for the year 2022, (*see table 9*). The accumulated inflation rate at the end of 2023 was recorded at 4.0 percent while that for 2022 was recorded at 6.5 percent, (*see table 8*). The average “All Items” index was recorded at 124.3 compared to 118.9 for 2022, (*see table 6*).

Point-to-Point Inflation

During the year the “Point-to-Point” inflation rate recorded positive values. The highest rate of 5.8 percent was recorded in the months of January and February while the lowest rate of 3.0 percent was recorded in the month of September, (*see table 9*).

Monthly Inflation

The monthly inflation rates fluctuated throughout the year. The highest rate was registered at 1.1 percent which was recorded for the month of June, while the lowest rate was registered at negative 0.2 percent for the months of January and August, (*see table 7*).

All Items Index

The “All Items” index moved from 121.4 in January to 126.5 in December. These values were also the lowest and highest levels for the year. The months of August and September recorded similar values of 125. Likewise, November and December recorded a value of 126.5, (*see table 6*).

Point-to-Point Indices

Eleven (11) groups recorded increases for the year; “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (9.4%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (8.0%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (7.9%), “Restaurants and Hotels” (5.2%), “Clothing and Footwear” (5.1%), “Recreation and Culture” (4.4%), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (3.7%), “Education” (3.4%), “Communication” (2.2%), “Health” (0.8%) and “Housing, Water,

Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.3%). The only group that recorded an overall decline for the year was “Transport” (0.6%), (*see table 3*)

Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance

The group index for “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance grew by 9.4 percent on account of an increase in the price of dinner forks (94.0%), dinner plates (90.2%), bath towels (72.5%), bleach (44.9%), drinking glass (37.7%) and powdered detergent (27.3%), (*see table 11*).

Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages

The group index for “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” recorded an increase of 8.0 percent due to higher prices for several food items namely; local carrots (75.0%), cauliflower (69.4%), sweet peppers (58.4%), cabbage (47.1%), curry (46.7%), onions (44.5%), tomatoes (39.6%), smoked herring (39.3%), oranges (34.2%), fresh beef (20.0%), eggs (18.7%), loose rice (12.1%) and green plantains (11.7%), (*see table 11*).

Miscellaneous Goods and Services

“Miscellaneous Goods and Services” increased by 7.9 percent due mainly to an increase in the prices of several items which included hair cut for boys (100.0%) and men (50.0%), sanitary napkins with wings (48.9%), baby diapers (38.5%), toothpaste (16.9%) and toilet soap (10.4%), (*see table 11*).

Hotels and Restaurants

Higher prices for a pizza (21.4%), a chicken sandwich (18.6%), fruit juice (18.4%), a small chicken lunch (8.3%) and a small fish lunch (7.7%), were the main contributors to the increase of 5.2 percent in the group index for “Restaurants and Hotels” (*see table 11*).

Clothing and Footwear

The group index for “Clothing and Footwear” grew by 5.1 percent as a result of an increase in the price of men’s boxer briefs (121.4%), girls’ panties (66.7%), textile material – cotton (41.6%), men’s socks (36.0%), belts (33.3%), girls’ school shoes (19.2%), men’s dress shoes (16.8%) and school shirts – white (16.3%), (*see table 11*).

Recreation and Culture

“Recreation and Culture” increased by 4.4 percent on account of higher prices for a 43” television (40.8%), a mathematics textbook for secondary schools (25.1%), a tin of cat food (14.0%), a can of dog food (13.2%) and vaccines for pets (10.6%), (*see table 11*).

Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics

The 3.7percent growth in the group index for “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” was as a result of an increase in the price of local white rum (16.5%), sparkling wine (16.4%), vodka (8.2%) and gin (6.0%), (*see table 11*).

Education

“Education” grew by 3.4 percent due to an increase in school fees which include pre-primary school (5.0%), primary school (3.7%) and tuition for foreign tertiary institutions (4.6), (*see table 11*).

Communication

The increase of 19.9 percent for a mobile data plan, 10.9 percent for mobile-to-mobile calls and 2.5 percent for internet service are responsible for the 2.2 percent growth in the “Communication” index, (*see table 11*).

Health

The “Health” index increased by 0.8% as a result of an increase in the price for an eye examination (25.0%), pain relievers (6.1%), drugs for hypertension (6.0%) and dental care services (4.1%), (*see table 11*).

Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels

“Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” grew by 0.3 percent due mainly to a 5.9 percent increase in the cost of electricity. This resulted from an increase in the fuel surcharge rate which moved from 52.52 cents per kilowatt hour for December 2022 to 58.55 cents per kilowatt hour for December 2023.

Transport

“Transport” was the only group to record a decrease. The decline of 0.6 percent was due mainly to lower prices for passenger airfare from St Vincent and the Grenadines to several destinations which included Toronto - Canada (33.8%), Miami - U.S.A (32.3%) and London - United Kingdom (19.1%). Higher prices for car tyres (28.9%), front disc pads (17.6%) and diesel (6.6%) also contributed to the decline.

Table 1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average Price EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		December 2023	November 2023		
INCREASED					
Packaged flour, wholewheat	1Kg	6.50	5.81	0.69	11.9
Beef	1Lb	12.00	10.00	2.00	20.0
Pork chops	1Lb	12.76	10.38	2.38	22.9
Mutton	1Lb	20.36	19.22	1.14	5.9
Eggs	1Dozen	18.42	14.73	3.69	25.1
Ripe bananas	1Lb	1.77	1.58	0.19	12.0
Apples	1Lb	7.47	6.79	0.68	10.0
Cabbage, imported	1Lb	4.89	4.52	0.37	8.2
Cucumbers	1Lb	5.10	4.29	0.81	18.9
Pumpkin	1Lb	3.92	3.54	0.38	10.7
Sweet peppers	1Lb	14.00	10.00	4.00	40.0
Carrots, local	1Lb	7.00	6.00	1.00	16.7
Dasheen	1Lb	3.08	2.90	0.18	6.2
String beans	1 Lb	10.00	5.00	5.00	100.0
Whole kernel corn	340g Tin	5.71	4.81	0.90	18.7
Pigeon peas	425g Tin	7.91	6.80	1.11	16.3
Vodka	750ml Bottle	52.00	49.00	3.00	6.1
Gin	750ml Bottle	53.21	49.49	3.72	7.5
Girl's school shoes	1 pair	62.00	52.00	10.00	19.2
Dinner forks	Each	7.43	6.95	0.48	6.91
Drinking glass	Each	10.95	8.95	2.00	22.3
Mouthwash	500ml Bottle	30.46	27.71	2.75	9.9
Bath soap	100g	4.04	3.98	0.06	1.5
DECREASED					
Car tyres 195-60-R14	Each	220.00	277.27	-57.27	-20.7
Front disc pads	1 pair	70.00	85.00	-15.00	-17.6
Air filter	Each	20.00	25.00	-5.00	-20.0
Diesel	1 Gallon	15.29	16.98	-1.69	-10.0
Petrol	1 Gallon	16.06	17.06	-1.00	-5.9
Passenger airfare from St. Vicent and the Grenadines to:					
<i>Miami</i>	1 Month	2067.56	3154.32	-1086.76	-34.5
<i>London</i>	1 Month	2919.40	4007.70	-1088.30	-27.2
Electricity consumption	150Kwh	162.82	176.18	-13.36	-7.6
Anti-inflammatory pain medication, 100mg	20 Tablets	5.66	7.07	-1.41	-19.9
Laptop	Each	1217.43	1435.12	-217.69	-15.2

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		December 2023	December 2022		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Rice - Loose	1lb	2.23	1.99	0.24	12.06
Rice - Packaged	2kg	9.78	9.77	0.01	0.10
Flour - Loose	1 lb	1.92	1.94	-0.02	-1.03
Flour - Packaged (white)	2kg	9.17	9.13	0.04	0.44
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2kg	9.62	9.62	0.00	0.00
Cornflakes	510g Box	15.78	14.92	0.86	5.76
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (white)	Each	5.42	5.42	0.00	0.00
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 pk	2.91	2.91	0.00	0.00
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (whole wheat)	Each	6.26	5.92	0.34	5.74
Crix - salted crackers, White	288g (3 pk)	6.57	6.42	0.15	2.34
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	5.53	5.26	0.27	5.13
Beef - Fresh	1 lb	12.00	10.00	2.00	20.00
Pigtail - salted	1 lb	10.44	12.37	-1.93	-15.60
Chicken - Leg Quarters	1 lb	3.83	3.67	0.16	4.39
Chicken - Backs	1 lb	2.66	2.60	0.06	2.31
Chicken - Wings	1 lb	6.01	6.17	-0.16	-2.59
Turkey Wings	1 lb	4.83	5.02	-0.19	-3.78
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	9.55	9.03	0.52	5.76
Corned beef	340g	9.30	10.02	-0.72	-7.19
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	1 lb	12.00	12.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	1 lb	5.00	5.10	-0.10	-1.96
Fish - Fresh (Robin)	1 lb	5.00	5.10	-0.10	-1.96
Codfish	1 lb	14.67	15.48	-0.81	-5.23
Sardine in soya oil	106g Tin	5.53	5.10	0.43	8.43
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	4.16	3.94	0.22	5.58
Powdered milk - full cream	1 lb	8.35	9.03	-0.68	-7.53
Eggs	1 Doz	14.73	12.41	2.32	18.69
Margarine	445g Tub	13.60	12.60	1.00	7.94
Soya bean oil	1Litre	15.85	17.16	-1.31	-7.63
Coconut oil	750ml Bottle	36.92	32.54	4.38	13.46
Bananas (ripe)	1 lb	1.77	1.69	0.08	4.73
Limes	1 lb	5.10	4.00	1.10	27.50
Tomatoes	1 lb	10.08	7.22	2.86	39.61
Sweet Potatoes	1 lb	3.59	2.76	0.83	30.07
Yams	1 lb	4.66	4.37	0.29	6.64
Sugar - Brown (loose)	1 lb	2.29	2.37	-0.08	-3.38
Sugar - White (loose)	1 lb	2.62	2.67	-0.05	-1.87
Ice cream	1 Litre Tub	18.06	18.06	0.00	0.00
Tomato Ketchup	750ml Bottle	9.10	8.69	0.41	4.72
Orange Juice	1 Litre box	9.71	8.31	1.40	16.85
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.95	5.95	0.00	0.00

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		December 2023	December 2022		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	45.24	38.83	6.41	16.51
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.00	4.90	0.10	2.04
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.88	3.60	0.28	7.78
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	30.55	27.85	2.70	9.69
Vodka	750ml Bot.	53.23	51.05	2.18	4.27
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR					
Textile material - Cotton	1Yd.	16.07	11.35	4.72	41.59
Textile material - Tetrex	1Yd.	12.95	11.35	1.60	14.10
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	75.98	71.98	4.00	5.56
Men's Jeans (long)	Pair	68.98	74.23	-5.25	-7.07
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	127.62	122.00	5.62	4.61
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	73.19	73.19	0.00	0.00
Women's Blouse	Each	37.34	40.01	-2.67	-6.67
School shirt - white, size 10	Each	16.45	14.15	2.30	16.25
School overal , navy blue, size 8	Each	49.95	49.95	0.00	0.00
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	329.65	311.56	18.09	5.81
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	37.95	45.76	-7.81	-17.07
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE					
Bed - queen size	Each	2882.52	2737.72	144.80	5.29
Sheets - queen size, 300 thread count, 100% cotton	Each	194.95	194.95	0.00	0.00
Dinner forks	Each	7.43	3.83	3.60	93.99
Powder detergent	500g Pk	5.19	5.11	0.08	1.57
Toilet tissue, 280 sheets per roll	1 Roll	1.55	1.65	-0.10	-6.06

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		December 2023	December 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	6.69	6.31	0.38	6.02
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	4.75	5.25	-0.50	-9.52
Dental Care	Visit	149.47	143.56	5.91	4.12
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	16.06	15.06	1.00	6.64
Vehicle License (car) - not exd. 3000 lbs	Year	680.00	680.00	0.00	0.00
Bus Fare - Mesopotamia	1-Way	3.50	3.50	0.00	0.00
Boat Fare - Bequia	1-Way	29.54	25.00	4.54	18.16
Parking fees	1 Hour	2.50	2.50	0.00	0.00
Airfare - SVG to Barbados	1-Way	477.09	479.40	-2.31	-0.48
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	1.02	0.99	0.03	3.03
Internet	1 month	123.00	120.00	3.00	2.50
Cable TV charges (basic)	1 month	69.00	69.00	0.00	0.00
RECREATION AND CULTURE					
Television 43 " (smart TV)	Each	1,349.86	1,381.48	-31.62	-2.29
Tablet - 10.1"	Each	341.52	341.52	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer - 8 GB	Each	1,779.04	1,597.21	181.83	11.38
Dog Food (Canned)	375 g Tin	14.00	12.37	1.63	13.18
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	500.00	400.00	100.00	25.00
Mathematics textbook	Each	88.17	81.61	6.56	8.04
Newspapers	Each	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		December 2023	December 2022		
EDUCATION					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	312.50	297.50	15.00	5.04
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	1400.00	1350.00	50.00	3.70
Secondary School Fee - Private	Term	150.00	150.00	0.00	0.00
Tertiary Education Tuition - undergraduate, social sciences	Annual	8277.48	8140.80	136.68	1.68
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	13.96	13.42	0.54	4.02
School meals - Bread and Chicken	Each	4.00	3.67	0.33	8.99
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	23.70	0.00	0.00
Toothpaste	170g Tube	14.87	12.72	2.15	16.90
Roll -on	75ml bottle	8.34	8.15	0.19	2.33
Sanitary napkins, regular, with wings	10 per pack	8.73	5.75	2.98	51.83
Toilet Soap	110g	5.20	4.34	0.86	19.82
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	November 2023	December 2023	December 2022	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month November	Year December
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	152.3	155.3	143.8	2.0	8.0
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	135.3	135.5	130.7	0.1	3.7
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	111.5	111.7	106.3	0.2	5.1
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	109.4	107.9	107.6	-1.4	0.3
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	132.9	133.6	122.1	0.5	9.4
06.	Health	1.79	123.9	123.3	122.3	-0.5	0.8
07.	Transport	11.84	143.3	139.4	140.3	-2.7	-0.6
08.	Communication	9.41	114.5	114.5	112.0	0.0	2.2
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	117.1	116.6	111.7	-0.4	4.4
10.	Education	1.32	114.5	114.5	110.7	0.0	3.4
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	137.9	137.9	131.1	0.0	5.2
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	117.5	117.8	109.2	0.3	7.9
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	126.5	126.5	121.6	0.0	4.0

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for December 2023

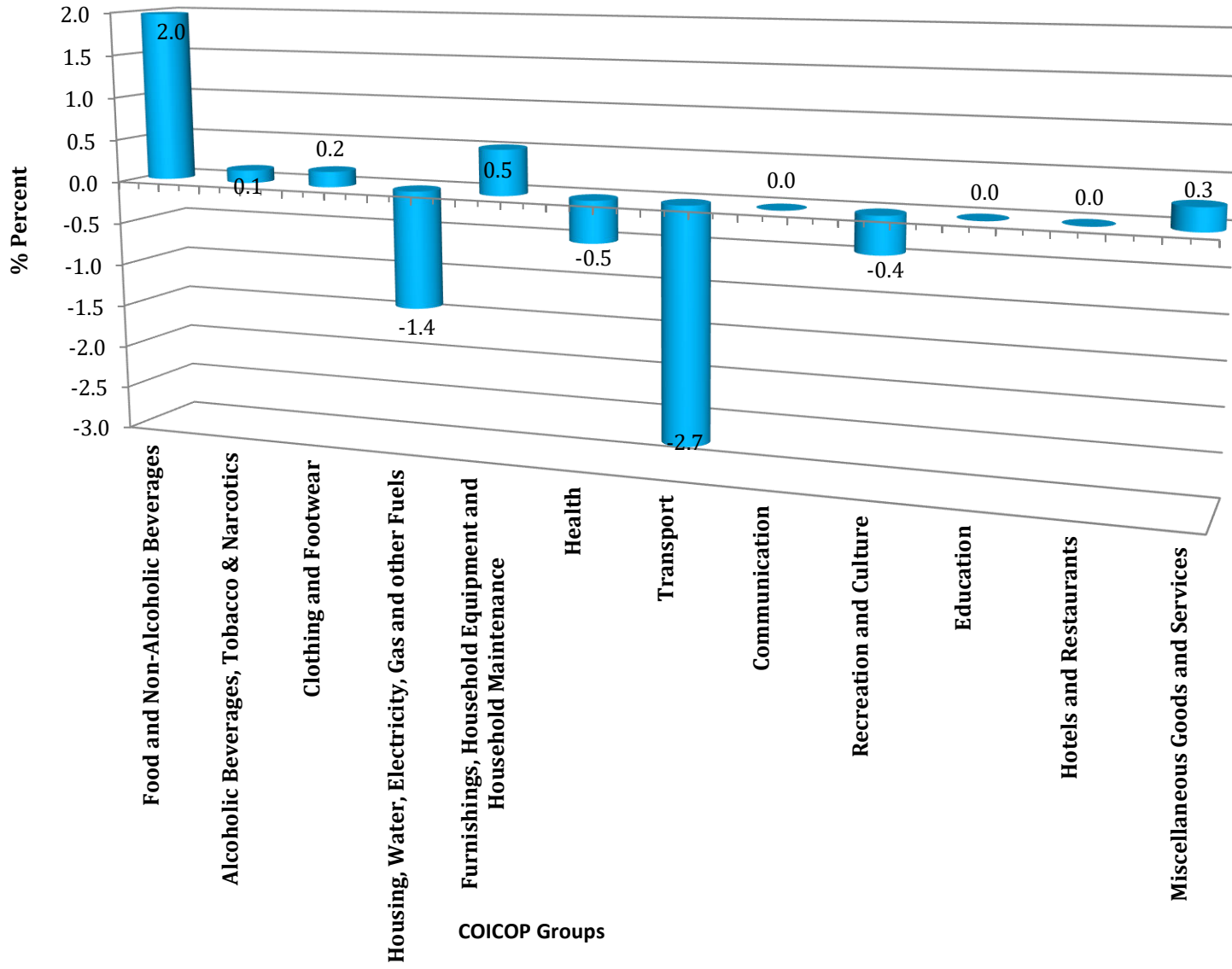


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	November 2023	December 2023	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						November 2023	December 2023		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	152.3	155.3	2.0	3,336.89	3,402.62	65.7	-
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	135.3	135.5	0.1	523.61	524.39	0.8	-
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	111.5	111.7	0.2	359.03	359.67	0.6	-
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	109.4	107.9	-1.4	3,288.56	3,243.47	-45.1	-
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	132.9	133.6	0.5	875.81	880.42	4.6	-
6.	Health	1.79	123.9	123.3	-0.5	221.78	220.71	-1.1	-
7.	Transport	11.84	143.3	139.4	-2.7	1,696.67	1,650.50	-46.2	-
8.	Communication	9.41	114.5	114.5	0.0	1,077.45	1,077.45	0.0	-
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	117.1	116.6	-0.4	446.15	444.25	-1.9	-
10.	Education	1.32	114.5	114.5	0.0	151.14	151.14	0.0	-
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	137.9	137.9	0.0	257.87	257.87	0.0	-
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	117.5	117.8	0.3	506.43	507.72	1.3	-
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	126.5	126.5	0.0	12,650.00	12,650.00	0.0	-

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
September	125.2	150.2	135.1	108.1	107.1	131.5	123.1	144.5	113.4	114.5	114.5	136.8	117.0
October	126.2	150.8	135.4	110.8	109.0	133.0	123.9	144.8	114.3	118.5	114.5	137.9	117.4
November	126.5	152.3	135.3	111.5	109.4	132.9	123.9	143.3	114.5	117.1	114.5	137.9	117.5
December	126.5	155.3	135.5	111.7	107.9	133.6	123.3	139.4	114.5	116.6	114.5	137.9	117.8

Table 6: Monthly All Items Index, January to December 2018 - 2023

Months	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
January	109.6	111.4	111.7	110.5	114.7	121.4
February	109.4	110.9	111.8	110.8	114.8	121.5
March	109.6	111.0	111.5	111.4	115.4	121.8
April	110.4	111.5	111.6	112.0	116.9	123.0
May	110.5	111.0	110.5	111.9	118.0	123.6
June	110.6	111.6	110.7	112.8	118.7	125.0
July	110.7	111.8	110.0	112.9	119.8	125.4
August	110.8	111.8	110.3	113.1	120.6	125.2
September	110.9	111.5	110.2	113.2	121.5	125.2
October	111.0	111.5	110.3	113.4	121.9	126.2
November	110.9	111.9	110.3	113.8	122.3	126.5
December	110.8	111.3	110.2	114.0	121.6	126.5
Average	110.4	111.4	110.8	112.5	118.9	124.3

Chart 2: Monthly All Items Index, January to December 2022 - 2023

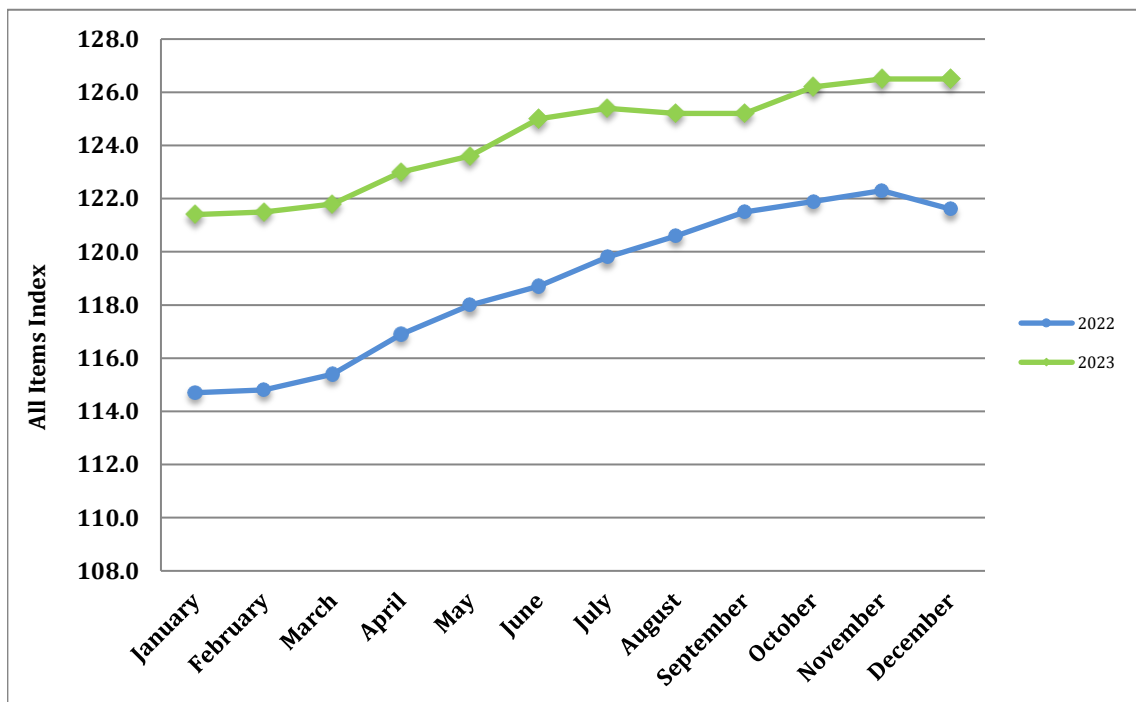


Table 7: Monthly Rate of Inflation, January to December 2018 - 2023

Months	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
January	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.6	-0.2
February	-0.2	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1
March	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2
April	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.5	1.3	1.0
May	0.1	0.2	-0.7	-0.1	0.9	0.5
June	0.1	0.7	-0.5	0.8	0.6	1.1
July	0.1	0.9	-1.2	0.1	0.9	0.3
August	0.1	0.9	-0.9	0.2	0.7	-0.2
September	0.1	0.6	-1.0	0.1	0.7	0.0
October	0.1	0.6	-0.9	0.2	0.3	0.8
November	-0.1	1.0	-0.9	0.4	0.3	0.2
December	-0.1	0.5	-1.0	0.2	-0.6	0.0

Chart 3: Monthly Rate of Inflation, January to December 2022 - 2023

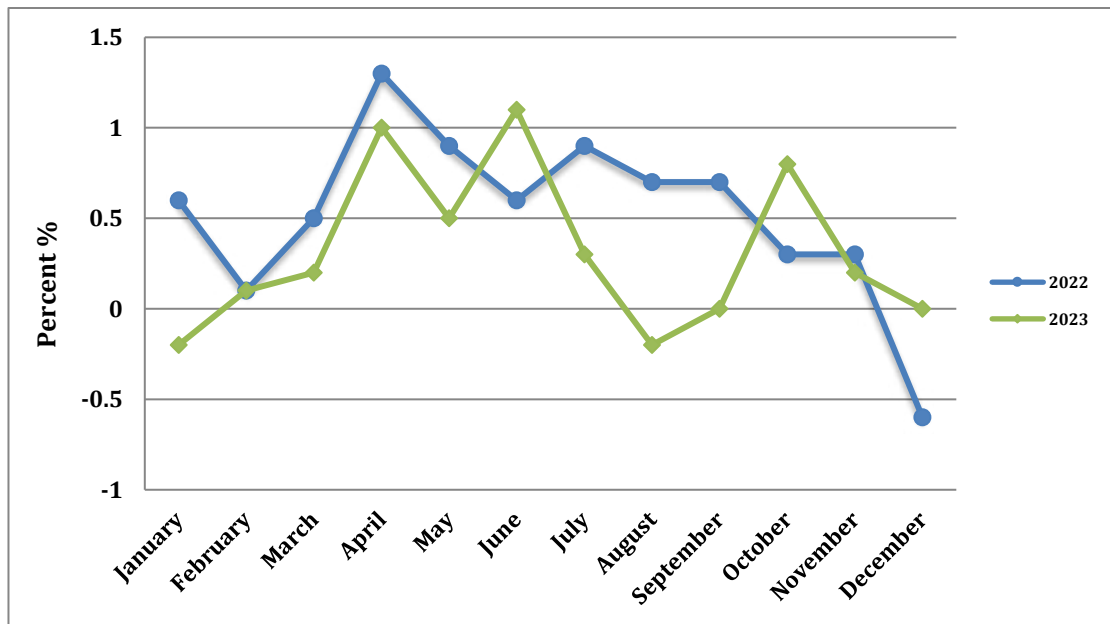


Table 8: Accumulated Inflation, January to December 2018 - 2023

Months	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
January	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.6	-0.2
February	0.1	-0.4	0.1	0.5	0.7	-0.1
March	0.3	0.1	-0.3	1.1	1.2	0.2
April	1.0	0.5	0.1	1.6	2.5	1.2
May	1.1	-0.4	-0.1	1.5	3.5	1.6
June	1.2	0.5	0.3	2.3	4.1	2.8
July	1.3	0.2	-0.6	2.4	5.0	3.1
August	1.4	0.0	0.3	2.6	5.7	2.9
September	1.5	-0.3	-0.1	2.7	6.4	2.9
October	1.5	0.0	0.1	2.9	6.7	3.7
November	1.5	0.4	0.0	3.2	7.1	4.0
December	1.4	-0.5	-0.1	3.4	6.5	4.0

Chart 4: Accumulated Inflation, January to December 2022 - 2023

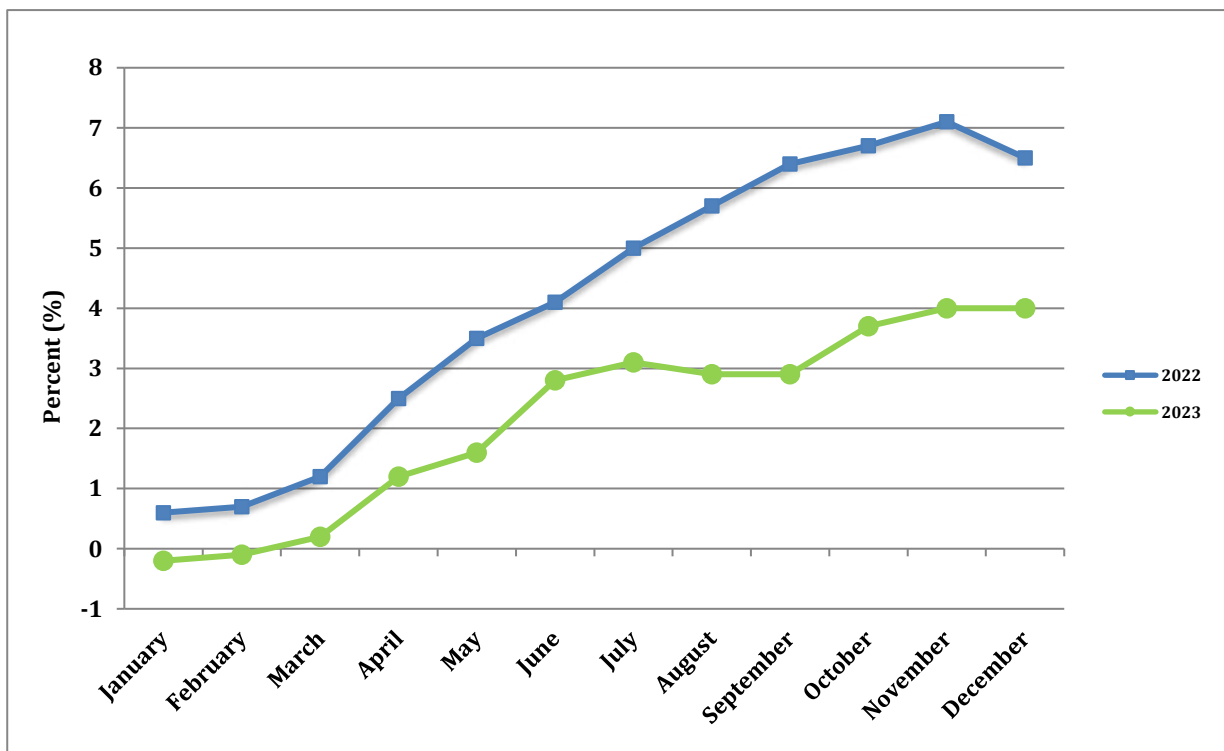
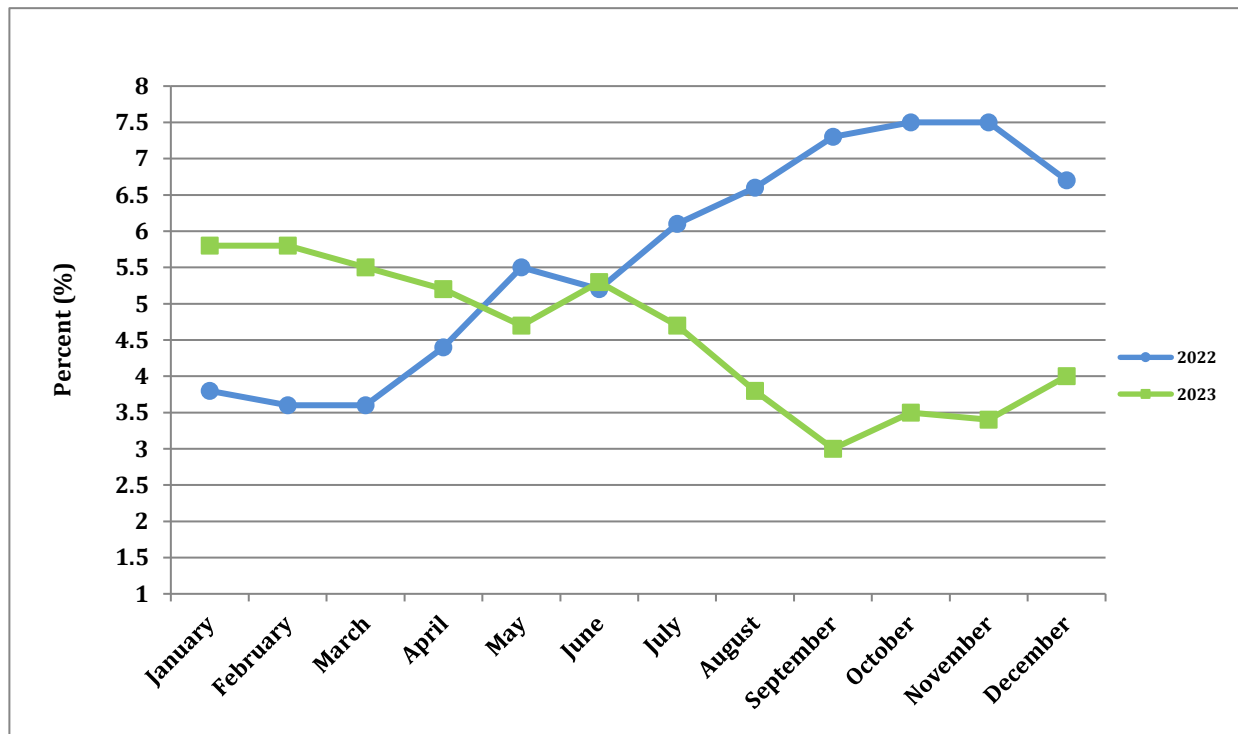


Table 9: Point to Point Rate of Inflation, January to December 2018 - 2023

Months	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
January	2.7	1.6	0.3	-1.1	3.8	5.8
February	2.8	1.4	0.8	-0.9	3.6	5.8
March	3.1	1.3	0.5	-0.1	3.6	5.5
April	2.7	1.0	0.1	0.4	4.4	5.2
May	2.3	0.5	-0.5	1.3	5.5	4.7
June	2.1	0.9	-0.8	1.9	5.2	5.3
July	2.0	1.0	-1.6	2.6	6.1	4.7
August	2.2	0.9	-1.3	2.5	6.6	3.8
September	2.3	0.5	-1.2	2.7	7.3	3.0
October	2.3	0.5	-1.1	2.8	7.5	3.5
November	1.9	0.9	-1.4	3.2	7.5	3.4
December	1.4	0.5	-1.0	3.4	6.7	4.0
Average	2.3	0.9	-0.6	1.6	5.7	4.6

Chart 5: Point to Point Rate of Inflation, January to December 2022 - 2023



**Table 10.1: Average Annual Retail Price
Selected Items 2023 Compared With 2022**

Items	Unit Of Quantity	Average Retail Price EC\$		Percentage Change Over Previous Year
		2023	2022	2022
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES				
Rice - Loose	1lb	2.09	1.95	7.2
Rice - Packaged	2kg	9.79	9.77	0.2
Flour - Loose	1 lb	1.92	1.69	13.6
Flour - Packaged (white)	2kg	9.15	8.14	12.4
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2kg	9.64	8.48	13.7
Cornflakes	510g Box	15.44	13.50	14.4
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (white)	Each	5.32	4.62	15.2
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 pk	2.91	2.65	9.8
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (whole wheat)	Each	6.21	5.77	7.6
Crix - salted crackers, White	288g (3 pk)	5.54	6.05	-8.4
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	5.39	5.04	6.9
Beef - Fresh	1 lb	10.17	9.92	2.5
Pigtail - salted	1 lb	11.92	11.64	2.4
Chicken - Leg Quarters	1 lb	3.72	3.55	4.8
Chicken - Backs	1 lb	2.67	2.34	14.1
Chicken - Wings	1 lb	5.89	5.51	6.9
Turkey Wings	1 lb	5.02	4.49	11.8
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	9.20	8.88	3.6
Corned beef	340g	9.90	9.43	5.0
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	1 lb	12.16	9.28	31.0
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	1 lb	4.88	5.02	-2.8
Fish - Fresh (Robin)	1 lb	4.96	5.02	-1.2
Codfish	1 lb	15.22	15.27	-0.3
Sardine in soya oil	106g Tin	5.29	4.93	7.3
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	4.09	3.42	19.6
Powdered milk - full cream	1 lb	8.48	8.42	0.7
Eggs	1 Doz	12.49	10.58	18.1
Margarine	445g Tub	13.30	11.28	17.9
Soya bean oil	1Litre	17.09	16.24	5.2
Coconut oil	750ml Bottle	36.26	31.14	16.4
Bananas (ripe)	1 lb	1.63	1.63	0.0
Limes	1 lb	4.72	4.71	0.2
Tomatoes	1 lb	7.68	6.35	20.9
Sweet Potatoes	1 lb	3.51	2.81	24.9
Yams	1 lb	4.10	4.48	-8.5
Sugar - Brown (loose)	1 lb	2.30	2.04	12.7
Sugar - White (loose)	1 lb	2.63	2.48	6.0
Ice cream	1 Litre Tub	18.06	17.81	1.4
Tomato Ketchup	750ml Bottle	9.39	7.39	27.1
Orange Juice	1 Litre Box	9.15	7.56	21.0
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.95	5.86	1.5
Oats	510g Carton	9.26	7.94	16.6
Mutton	1 lb	18.84	15.59	20.8
Smoked herring	1 lb	15.11	11.35	33.1
Condensed milk	397g Tin	5.57	3.96	40.7
Curry	1 lb	13.92	11.62	19.8

**Table 10.2: Average Annual Retail Price
Selected Items 2023 Compared With 2022**

Items	Unit Of Quantity	Average Retail Price EC\$		Percentage Change Over Previous Year 2022
		2023	2022	
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS				
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	44.55	37.99	17.3
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	4.94	4.93	0.2
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	3.80	3.50	8.6
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	29.48	26.47	11.4
Vodka	750ml Bot.	51.91	50.46	2.9
Brandy	1 Litre Bot.	209.75	256.47	-18.2
Gin	750ml Bot.	57.97	47.52	22.0
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR				
Textile material - Cotton	1Yd.	14.59	12.54	16.3
Textile material - Tetrex	1Yd.	12.11	11.26	7.5
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	75.86	74.98	1.2
Men's Jeans (long)	Pair	67.52	72.06	-6.3
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	120.54	133.17	-9.5
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	73.19	72.67	0.7
Women's Blouse	Each	36.70	40.57	-9.5
School shirt - white, size 10	Each	16.31	15.87	2.8
School overal , navy blue, size 8	Each	49.61	47.78	3.8
Men's suit	Each	215.83	295.00	-26.8
Men's boxer briefs	Pk of 3	36.49	23.94	52.4
School pants, short, navy blue	Each	19.75	22.63	-12.7
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS				
Rent :				
Unfurnished House - 2 Bedrooms	Month	785.00	785.00	0.0
Unfurnished House - 3 Bedrooms	Month	750.00	750.00	0.0
Furnished Apartment - 2 Bedrooms	Month	812.50	812.50	0.0
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gallons	35.00	35.00	0.0
Electricity Consumption Charge	300 KWH	328.41	332.86	-1.3
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	42.51	45.14	-5.8
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE				
Bed - queen size	Each	2848.27	2587.72	10.1
Sheets - queen size, 300 thread count, 100% cotton	Each	196.79	172.68	14.0
Dinner forks	Each	6.23	4.63	34.6
Powder detergent	500g Pk	5.48	4.91	11.6
Toilet tissue, 280 sheets per roll	1 Roll	1.61	1.56	3.2

**Table 10.3: Average Annual Retail Price
Selected Items 2023 Compared With 2022**

Items	Unit Of Quantity	Average Retail Price EC\$		Percentage Change Over Previous Year 2022
		2023	2022	
HEALTH				
Doctor's Fee - Gynaecologist	Visit	80.00	80.00	0.0
Doctor's Fee - General Practitioner	Visit	60.00	60.00	0.0
Blood test - CBC	Test	27.39	27.39	0.0
Drugs for Hypertension	Month supply	6.65	6.29	5.7
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	5.24	5.12	2.3
Dental Care	Visit	148.66	143.56	3.6
General eye exam	Test	100.00	80.00	25.0
TRANSPORT				
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	15.79	15.89	-0.6
Vehicle License (car) - not exd. 3000 lbs	Year	680.00	680.00	0.0
Bus Fare - Mesopotamia	1-Way	3.50	3.17	10.4
Parking fees	1 Hour	2.50	2.50	0.0
Passenger airfare from St Vincent & the Grenadines to:				
<i>Barbados</i>	1-Way	493.99	400.64	23.3
<i>St. Lucia</i>	1-Way	687.02	414.57	65.7
<i>Miami</i>	1 Month	3316.02	1774.17	86.9
COMMUNICATION				
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	1 Minute	0.08	0.08	0.0
Telephone - Consumption Charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.0
Mobile to Mobile - domestic (off network)	1 Minute	1.00	0.99	1.0
Internet	1 month	121.69	120.00	1.4
Cable TV charges (basic)	1 month	69.00	69.00	0.0
Mobile data plan	3-day	12.00	10.17	18.0
RECREATION AND CULTURE				
Television 43 " (smart TV)	Each	1378.85	1453.51	-5.1
Tablet - 10.1"	Each	455.92	486.89	-6.4
Laptop Computer - 8 GB	Each	1650.47	1300.27	26.9
Dog Food (Canned)	375 g Tin	13.38	10.98	21.9
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	466.67	401.04	16.4
Mathematics textbook	Each	88.14	86.13	2.3
Newspapers	Each	1.50	1.50	0.0
Vaccines for pets	1 Dose	51.19	47.43	7.9

**Table 10.4: Average Annual Retail Price
Selected Items 2023 Compared With 2022**

ITEMS	Unit Of Quantity	Average Retail Price EC\$		Percentage Change Over Previous Year 2022
		2023	2022	
EDUCATION				
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	310.00	282.50	9.7
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	1366.67	1306.94	4.6
Secondary School Fee - Private	Term	150.00	150.00	0.0
Tertiary Education Tuition - undergraduate, social sciences	Annual	8186.03	8140.80	0.6
Private tutor	Per Session	20.00	20.00	0.0
RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS				
Pizza, pepperoni	Each	21.19	17.75	19.4
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	15.00	14.25	5.3
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	20.00	18.75	6.7
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	21.85	21.08	3.7
Roti - Beef	Each			
School meals:				
Bread & Chicken	Each	3.86	3.79	1.8
Chicken Lunch	Each	6.67	5.92	12.7
Accommodation at overseas univeristy (on campus), UWI Mona	Per Semester	2267.67	2114.26	7.3
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES				
Toilet Soap	110g	4.66	3.69	26.3
Toothpaste	170g tube	13.80	12.26	12.6
Men's Haircut	1 Visit	13.75	10.00	37.5
Disposable Diapers (medium)	22pcs per Pk.	23.70	20.99	12.9
Health Insurance - Group (family)	≥3 Persons	307.00	307.00	0.0
Lady's deodorant	74g bottle	15.03	11.93	26.0
Sanitary napkins, with wings	10pcs per Pk.	7.92	5.73	38.2
3rd Party Motor Vehicle Insurance	Annual	452.62	432.62	4.6

Table 11
Retail Price of Items That Contributed to Change
December 2023 Compared to December 2022

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average Price EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		December 2023	December 2022		
INCREASED					
Loose Rice	Lb	2.23	1.99	0.24	12.1
Cornflakes	340g box	37.85	24.55	13.30	54.2
Crackers	5oz Pk	2.82	2.24	0.58	25.9
Fresh beef	Lb	12.00	10.00	2.00	20.0
Smoked herring	Lb	15.35	11.02	4.33	39.3
Evaporated milk	395g Tin	5.93	5.01	0.92	18.4
Condensed milk	397g Tin	5.97	4.59	1.38	30.1
Eggs	1 doz.	14.73	12.41	2.32	18.7
Oranges	Each	2.00	1.49	0.51	34.2
Green plantains	Lb	2.00	1.79	0.21	11.7
Breadfruit (small)	Each	4.13	3.00	1.13	37.7
Cabbage	Lb	6.00	4.08	1.92	47.1
Cauliflower	Lb	18.89	11.15	7.74	69.4
Tomatoes	Lb	10.08	7.22	2.86	39.6
Sweet peppers	Lb	14.00	8.84	5.16	58.4
Carrots (local)	Lb	7.00	4.00	3.00	75.0
Onions	Lb	4.22	2.92	1.30	44.5
Curry	Lb	16.80	11.45	5.35	46.72
Orange juice	1 litre Box	9.71	8.31	1.40	16.8
Vodka	750ml Bottle	55.23	51.05	4.18	8.2
Gin	750ml Bottle	68.41	64.53	3.88	6.0
White rum	750ml Bottle	45.24	38.83	6.41	16.5
Sparkling wine - white	750ml Bottle	44.80	38.50	6.30	16.4
Textile material - Cotton, 100%	1 Yard	16.07	11.35	4.72	41.6
Men's socks - cotton	1 pair	22.03	16.20	5.83	36.0
Men's boxer briefs	3 Pk	45.95	20.75	25.20	121.4
Brassiere	Each	22.00	20.00	2.00	10.0
School shirts - white, size 10	Each	16.45	14.15	2.30	16.3
Girl panties	Each	5.00	3.00	2.00	66.7
Belts	Each	20.00	15.00	5.00	33.3
Men's dress shoes	Pair	139.00	119.00	20.00	16.8
Girls school shoes	Pair	62.00	52.00	10.00	19.2
Electricity consumption	150Kwh	162.82	153.78	9.04	5.9
Bath towels	Each	47.33	27.43	19.90	72.5
Dinner forks	Each	7.43	3.83	3.60	94.0
Dinner plates, porcelain	Each	14.13	7.43	6.70	90.2
Drinking glass	Each	10.95	7.95	3.00	37.7
Powdered detergent	1.7Kg	27.53	21.63	5.90	27.3
Bleach	64Fl.oz. Bottle	17.10	11.80	5.30	44.9

Table 11 Cont'd
Retail Price of Items That Contributed to Change
December 2023 Compared to December 2022

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average Price EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price	
		December 2023	December 2022			
INCREASED						
Drugs for hypertension	28 Tablets	6.69	6.31	0.38	6.0	
General eye exam	Per Visit	100.00	80.00	20.00	25.0	
Dental services	Per Visit	149.47	143.56	5.91	4.1	
Pain relievers 500mg	32 Tablets	3.14	2.96	0.18	6.1	
Mobile data plans	30-day	119.90	100.00	19.90	19.9	
Mobile to mobile calls, domestic	1 minute	1.02	0.92	0.10	10.9	
Internet	1 month	123.00	120.00	3.00	2.5	
Television , 43"	Each	3046.26	2163.84	882.42	40.8	
Dog food	395g Tin	14.00	12.37	1.63	13.2	
Cat food	156g Tin	5.62	4.93	0.69	14.0	
Pet vaccines	Each	52.44	47.43	5.01	10.6	
Mathematics textbook, secondary school	Each	89.58	71.61	17.97	25.1	
Pre-primary school fees	1 Month	312.50	297.50	15.00	5.0	
Primary school fees	1 Term	1400.00	1350.00	50.00	3.7	
Tuition Fees, Foreign Tertiary Institution	1 Year	6357.05	6075.39	281.66	4.6	
Pizza	Each	21.25	17.50	3.75	21.4	
Chicken lunch, small	Each	13.00	12.00	1.00	8.3	
Fish lunch, small	Each	14.00	13.00	1.00	7.7	
Chicken sandwich, 12"	Each	28.75	24.25	4.50	18.6	
Fruit juice, large	1 Glass	5.92	5.00	0.92	18.4	
Men's hair cut	1 visit	15.00	10.00	5.00	50.0	
Boy's hair cut	1 visit	10.00	5.00	5.00	100.0	
Baby diapers	32Pcs Pk	57.35	41.40	15.95	38.5	
Toothpaste	170g Tube	14.87	12.72	2.15	16.9	
Sanitary napkin, regular with wings	10Pcs Pk	7.83	5.26	2.57	48.9	
Soap	110g	5.32	4.82	0.50	10.4	
DECREASED						
Diesel	1 Gal.	15.29	16.37	-1.08	-6.6	
Front disc pads	1 Pair	70.00	85.00	-15.00	-17.6	
Car tyres 265-70-R17	Each	450.00	633.05	-183.05	-28.9	
Passenger airfare from St Vincent and the Grenadines to:						
	<i>Miami, U.S.A</i>	1 Month	2145.81	3169.20	-1023.39	-32.3
	<i>Toronto, Canada</i>	1 Month	2181.90	3293.67	-1111.77	-33.8
	<i>London, United Kingdom</i>	1 Month	2919.40	3609.00	-689.60	-19.1
Pigtails, salted	1Lb	10.44	12.37	-1.93	-15.6	
Chicken thighs	1Lb	3.03	4.13	-1.10	-26.6	
Powdered milk, full cream	1Lb	8.35	9.03	-0.68	-7.5	
LPG (cooking gas)	2lb Cylinder	46.45	56.20	-9.75	-17.3	