



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 2024

The consumer price index remained unchanged for the month of February 2024, after an increase of 0.6 percent for the month of January 2024 (*see table 3*).

During the month of February 2024, the “All Items” index was recorded at 127.2 similar to the month of January 2024. Seven (7) groups recorded an increase during the month namely; “Hotels and Restaurants” (1.4%), “Recreation and Culture” (1.3%), “Clothing and Footwear” (0.9%), and “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.7%), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (0.3%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.1%) and “Health” (0.1%). Four (4) groups recorded a decrease during the month; “Transport” (1.0%), “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.7%), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.2%) and “Communication” (0.1%). One (1) group remained unchanged; “Education”. (*see table 3*)

“Hotels and Restaurants” group index recorded a 1.4 percent upward movement on account of an increase in the price for school meals, in particular a slice of pizza (11.0%) and bread and chicken (8.3%).

The index for the group “Recreation and Culture” grew by 1.3 percent as a result of higher prices for a tablet computer (39.4%) and a laptop computer (6.0%).

“Clothing and Footwear” group index increased by 0.9 percent, because of an increase in the cost of a men’s dress shoe (11.8%).

“Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” index registered an increase of 0.7 percent due to increase in the price of a number of food items namely; fresh- fish jacks (30.3%), red seedless grape (27.7%), pigeon peas (17.7%), kidney beans packaged (17.2%), cereal -cornflakes (16.7%), tomatoes-local (10.6%), tomatoes – imported (10.5%), mineral water (7.7%), sweet peppers (5.1%) , cucumbers (3.7%) , tomato ketchup (3.7%), cooking oil -canola (3.7%), salt – loose (2.7%) and onion- yellow (2.3%).

The group index “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” recorded an upward movement of 0.3 percent due to an increase in the cost of local white rum (2.8%).

The “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” group index grew by 0.1 percent as a result of a higher price for sanitary napkins (1.6%).

The index for the group “Health” increased by 0.1 percent, because of a rise in the cost of blood sugar test strips (2.0%).

The “Transport” group index fell by 1.0 percent on account of lower prices for a number of items such as; passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to Toronto (29.5%), London (13.4%), Trinidad and Tobago (6.7%), petrol (3.1%) and diesel (3.3%).

“Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” group index registered a decrease of 0.7 percent as a result of a fall in the cost of electricity by 4.2 percent. This decline was due to decrease in the fuel surcharge rate which moved from 58.19 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of January 2024 to 53.68 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of February 2024.

Correspondingly the “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” group index fell by 0.2 percent due to a reduction in the price of a queen size mattress (35.7%).

The index for the group “Communication” declined by 0.1 percent because of a lower price for a cell phone -8GB (7.0%).

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 4.7 percent for the month of February 2024 compared to 5.8 percent for February 2023. The groups that represented the largest increases during the period were, "Clothing and Footwear" (9.8%), "Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages" (9.1%), "Miscellaneous Goods and Services" (6.5%), "Recreation and Culture" (5.5%) and "Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance" (4.4%) (*See table 3*).

The consumer price index remained unchanged for February 2024. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 4.7 due to relative price changes during the month of February 2024 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 2024	January 2024		
INCREASED					
Flour - Packaged (white)	2Kg	9.22	9.17	0.05	0.5
Cereal -Cornflakes	680g Box	15.96	13.68	2.28	16.7
Corned Beef	340g Tin	9.83	9.55	0.28	2.9
Chicken vienna sausage	141g Tin	3.48	3.31	0.17	5.1
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	1lb	6.67	5.12	1.55	30.3
Cooking Oil - Canola	1.42Litre Bot	34.35	33.13	1.22	3.7
Red seedless grape	1lb	23.21	18.17	5.04	27.7
Tomatoes - local	1lb	10.12	9.15	0.97	10.6
Tomatoes - imported	1lb	12.10	10.95	1.15	10.5
Onion - yellow	1lb	4.01	3.92	0.09	2.3
Sweet Pepper	1lb	13.05	12.42	0.63	5.1
Cucumber	1lb	5.35	5.16	0.19	3.7
Broccoli - imported	1lb	14.97	13.37	1.60	12.0
Kidney Beans	454g Pk	9.18	7.83	1.35	17.2
Tomato Ketchup	750ml Bot	9.44	9.10	0.34	3.7
Curry powder -Loose	1lb	17.00	16.49	0.51	3.1
Salt - loose	1lb	1.16	1.13	0.03	2.7
Green Seasoning	750ml Bot	13.91	13.65	0.26	1.9
Mineral Water	1.5Litre Bot	5.88	5.46	0.42	7.7
Pigeon Peas	425g Tin	8.24	7.00	1.24	17.7
Rum - Local (White)	750ml Bot	46.52	45.24	1.28	2.8
Men's dress shoes	Each	137.70	123.12	14.58	11.8
Sanitary napkins	24pc	5.68	5.59	0.09	1.6
Blood sugar test strips	50pc	119.00	116.67	2.33	2.0
Tablet Computer -10.1" - 3GB	Each	513.13	368.18	144.95	39.4
Laptop computer - 8GB	Each	1779.04	1679.07	99.97	6.0
School -meal - Bread and Chicken	Each	4.33	4.00	0.33	8.3
School -meal - Pizza	Each	3.33	3.00	0.33	11.0
DECREASED					
Pigtail -frozen	1lb	6.29	7.32	-1.03	-14.1
Turkey - wings	1lb	4.71	4.92	-0.21	-4.3
Gala apples	1lb	6.54	7.46	-0.92	-12.3
Cauliflower	1lb	15.38	18.89	-3.51	-18.6
Black tea	Pkt 25	6.75	7.15	-0.40	-5.6
Orange juice	1 Litre	9.26	9.67	-0.41	-4.2
Apple juice	1 Litre	9.36	9.51	-0.15	-1.6
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	15.56	16.06	-0.50	-3.1
Diesel	Gallon	14.79	15.29	-0.50	-3.3
Passenger airfare from SVG to:					
<i>Trinidad and Tobago</i>	One way	631.41	676.51	-45.10	-6.7
<i>London</i>	1 Month	2424.80	2801.00	-376.20	-13.4
<i>Toronto</i>	1 Month	2320.51	3292.85	-972.34	-29.5
Electricity Consumption	150KWH	155.52	162.29	-6.77	-4.2
Mattress queen size	Each	899.00	1399.00	-500.00	-35.7
Cellphone - 8GB	Each	1703.22	1830.51	-127.29	-7.0

Table 2.1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2024 Compared With February 2023

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2024	February 2023		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Rice - Loose	1lb	2.23	1.99	0.24	11.90
Rice - Packaged	2kg	9.73	9.77	-0.03	-0.34
Flour - Loose	1 lb	1.92	1.91	0.01	0.64
Flour - Packaged (white)	2kg	9.22	9.13	0.10	1.07
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2kg	9.62	9.62	0.00	0.00
Cornflakes	510g Box	16.06	14.85	1.21	8.15
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (white)	Each	5.42	5.14	0.27	5.27
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 pk	2.91	2.91	0.00	0.00
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (whole wheat)	Each	6.26	6.14	0.13	2.09
Crix - salted crackers, White	288g (3 pk)	6.57	6.51	0.05	0.82
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	5.58	5.27	0.30	5.79
Beef - Fresh	1 lb	12.00	10.00	2.00	20.00
Pigtail - salted	1 lb	10.44	12.10	-1.66	-13.74
Chicken - Leg Quarters	1 lb	3.83	3.64	0.19	5.18
Chicken - Backs	1 lb	2.66	2.64	0.01	0.43
Chicken - Wings	1 lb	6.19	5.72	0.47	8.14
Turkey Wings	1 lb	4.71	4.87	-0.16	-3.30
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	9.58	9.03	0.55	6.10
Corned beef	340g	9.83	10.11	-0.28	-2.79
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	1 lb	12.00	12.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	1 lb	6.67	4.00	2.67	66.75
Fish - Fresh (Robin)	1 lb	5.84	5.00	0.84	16.80
Codfish	1 lb	14.67	15.15	-0.48	-3.16
Sardine in soya oil	106g Tin	5.78	5.13	0.65	12.76
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	4.10	3.93	0.17	4.41
Powdered milk - full cream	1 lb	8.26	8.59	-0.33	-3.90
Eggs	1 Doz	13.68	12.10	1.58	13.06
Margarine	445g Tub	13.60	13.01	0.59	4.51
Soya bean oil	1Litre	15.88	16.56	-0.68	-4.09
Coconut oil	750ml Bottle	36.92	33.20	3.72	11.21
Bananas (ripe)	1 lb	1.79	1.74	0.05	2.81
Limes	1 lb	5.16	3.89	1.27	32.65
Tomatoes	1 lb	10.12	7.38	2.74	37.07
Sweet Potatoes	1 lb	3.93	2.99	0.94	31.28
Yams	1 lb	4.66	3.43	1.23	35.72
Sugar - Brown (loose)	1 lb	2.29	2.36	-0.07	-2.94
Sugar - White (loose)	1 lb	2.62	2.67	-0.05	-2.05
Ice cream	1 Litre Tub	18.06	18.06	0.00	0.00
Tomato Ketchup	750ml Bottle	9.44	9.53	-0.09	-0.92
Orange Juice	1 Litre box	9.26	8.38	0.88	10.45
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.96	5.95	0.01	0.25

Table 2.2
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2024 Compared With February 2023

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2024	February 2023		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	46.52	41.95	4.57	10.89
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.00	4.90	0.11	2.15
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	4.21	3.60	0.61	17.06
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	33.27	28.41	4.86	17.11
Vodka	750ml Bot.	53.35	51.26	2.09	4.08
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR					
Textile material - Cotton	1Yd.	16.07	14.09	1.98	14.08
Textile material - Tetrex	1Yd.	12.95	11.35	1.60	14.08
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	75.98	75.98	0.00	0.00
Men's Jeans (long)	Pair	69.76	64.62	5.14	7.95
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	137.70	113.46	24.24	21.37
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	89.00	73.19	15.82	21.61
Women's Blouse	Each	44.95	36.07	8.88	24.62
School shirt - white, size 10	Each	17.45	15.41	2.05	13.27
School overal , navy blue, size 8	Each	49.95	49.82	0.13	0.26
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	315.04	296.92	18.12	6.10
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	37.95	45.76	-7.81	-17.07
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD					
EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD					
MAINTENANCE					
Bed - queen size	Each	2,723.91	2,737.72	-13.81	-0.50
Sheets - queen size, 300 thread count, 100% cotton	Each	194.95	203.14	-8.19	-4.03
Dinner forks	Each	6.95	3.86	3.09	80.05
Powder detergent	500g Pk	5.36	5.50	-0.14	-2.47
Toilet tissue, 280 sheets per roll	1 Roll	1.55	1.76	-0.21	-12.12

Table 2.3
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2024 Compared With February 2023

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2024	February 2023		
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	6.95	-0.26	-3.72
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	5.25	6.49	-1.24	-19.14
Dental Care	Visit	149.47	146.21	3.26	2.23
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	15.56	15.06	0.50	3.32
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	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
Parking fees	1 Hour	3.50	3.50	0.00	0.00
Airfare - SVG to Barbados	1-Way	490.14	558.59	-68.45	-12.25
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	2.99
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	1,429.08	1,381.48	47.60	3.45
Tablet - 10.1"	Each	513.13	596.43	-83.30	-13.97
Laptop Computer - 8 GB	Each	1,779.04	1,262.19	516.85	40.95
Dog Food (Canned)	375 g Tin	14.00	12.37	1.62	13.12
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	500.00	400.00	100.00	25.00
Mathematics textbook	Each	88.17	88.42	-0.25	-0.28
Newspapers	Each	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00

Table 2.4
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
February 2024 Compared With February 2023

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		February 2024	February 2023		
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	8276.48	8140.80	135.68	1.67
Private tutor	Per Session	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS					
Pizza, pepperoni	Each	21.75	19.50	2.25	11.54
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	13.96	0.00	0.00
School meals - Bread and Chicken	Each	4.33	3.67	0.67	18.18
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	22.31	23.70	-1.39	-5.86
Toothpaste	170g Tube	15.17	13.68	1.50	10.94
Roll -on	75ml bottle	8.26	8.15	0.12	1.42
Sanitary napkins, regular, with wings	10 per pack	8.39	5.75	2.64	45.91
Toilet Soap	110g	5.20	4.34	0.85	19.68
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	471.49	432.62	38.88	8.99

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

	Groups	Weight	January 2024	February 2024	February 2023	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month January	Year February
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	155.7	156.8	143.7	0.7	9.1
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	136.7	137.1	132.3	0.3	3.6
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	113.8	114.8	104.6	0.9	9.8
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	107.8	107.0	106.7	-0.7	0.3
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	131.7	131.5	126.0	-0.2	4.4
06.	Health	1.79	124.9	125.0	124.9	0.1	0.1
07.	Transport	11.84	143.5	142.0	136.4	-1.0	4.1
08.	Communication	9.41	114.5	114.4	112.0	-0.1	2.1
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	118.7	120.3	114.0	1.3	5.5
10.	Education	1.32	114.5	114.5	111.9	0.0	2.3
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	136.5	138.4	133.1	1.4	4.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	118.5	118.6	111.4	0.1	6.5
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	127.2	127.2	121.5	0.0	4.7

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for February 2024

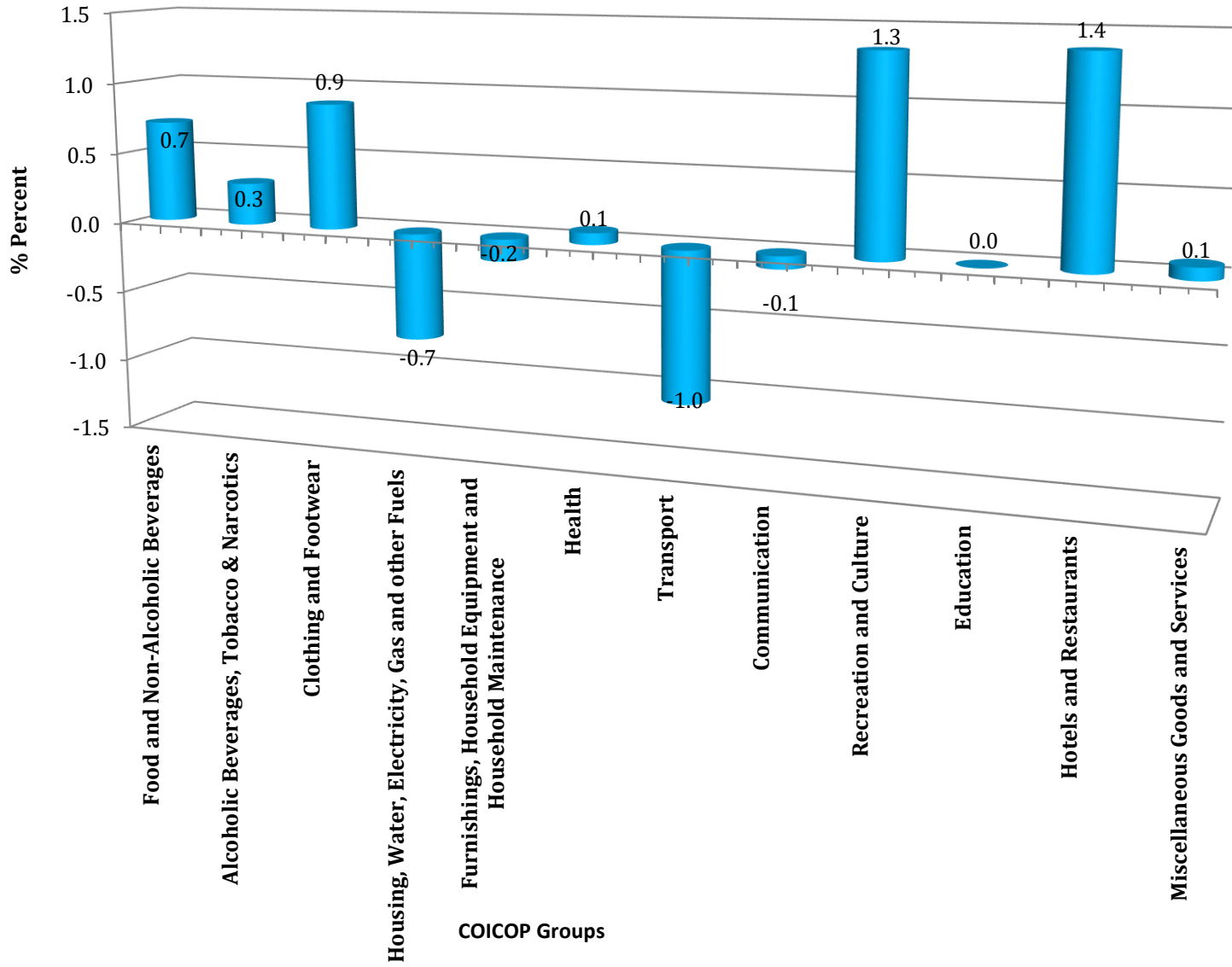


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	January 2024	February 2024	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						January 2024	February 2024		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	155.7	156.8	0.7	3,411.39	3,435.49	24.1	-
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	136.7	137.1	0.3	529.03	530.58	1.5	-
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	113.8	114.8	0.9	366.44	369.66	3.2	-
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	107.8	107.0	-0.7	3,240.47	3,216.42	-24.0	-
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	131.7	131.5	-0.2	867.90	866.59	-1.3	-
6.	Health	1.79	124.9	125.0	0.1	223.57	223.75	0.2	-
7.	Transport	11.84	143.5	142.0	-1.0	1,699.04	1,681.28	-17.8	-
8.	Communication	9.41	114.5	114.4	-0.1	1,077.45	1,076.50	-0.9	-
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	118.7	120.3	1.3	452.25	458.34	6.1	-
10.	Education	1.32	114.5	114.5	0.0	151.14	151.14	0.0	-
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	136.5	138.4	1.4	255.26	258.77	3.5	-
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	118.5	118.6	0.1	510.74	511.17	0.4	-
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	127.2	127.2	0.0	12,720.00	12,720.00	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	127.2	155.7	136.7	113.8	107.8	131.7	124.9	143.5	114.5	118.7	114.5	136.5	118.5
February	127.2	156.8	137.1	114.8	107.0	131.5	125.0	142.0	114.4	120.3	114.5	138.4	118.6