



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



THE STATISTICAL OFFICE

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

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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JANUARY 2024

The consumer price index recorded an increase of 0.6 percent for the month of January 2024, after being unchanged for the month of December 2023 (see table 3).

During the month of January 2024, the “All Items” index was recorded at 127.2 compared to 126.5 for the month of December 2023. Seven (7) groups recorded an increase during the month namely; “Transport” (2.9%), “Clothing and Footwear” (1.9%), “Recreation and Culture” (1.8%), “Health” (1.3%), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (0.9%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.6%) and “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.3%). Three (3) groups recorded decreases during the month; “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (1.4%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (1.0%) and “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.1%). Two (2) groups remained unchanged; “Communication” and “Education”.

The “Transport” index increased by 2.9 percent as a result of increase in the price of passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to Toronto (50.9%), Miami (12.7%), Barbados (5.1%), tyres (47.2%) and used cars (13.6%).

Higher prices for a television (8.1%), cat food (7.3%) and dog food (4.7%) were responsible for the 1.8 percent increase in the group index for “Recreation and Culture”.

The index for “Health” increased by 1.3 percent due to increases in the price of anti-inflammatory pain medication (29.0%), drugs for diabetes (20.0%) and a chest x-ray (6.7%).

The group index for “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” increased by 0.9 percent due to higher prices for tequila (23.1%), Irish cream (9.2%), local wine (8.9%) and cigarettes (8.0%).

“Clothing and Footwear” increased by 1.9 percent as a result of increase in the prices for women’s dress shoes (40.9%), men’s t-shirt (30.1%) and women’s blouse (20.4%) and brassiere (13.6%).

The 0.6 percent increase in the group index for “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” resulted from an increase in the price for comprehensive car insurance (14.5%), deodorant (18.3%), mouthwash (11.0%) and third-party car insurance (2.7%).

“Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” group index recorded a 0.3 percent increase as a result of higher prices for a number of items namely; spaghetti (24.1%), green pigeon peas (23.6%), ripe plantains (22.3%), whole kernel corn (16.4%), tin sausage (11.4%), corned beef (10.1%), sardine (10.0%), chicken wings (3.5%), loose garlic (3.2%) and turkey wings (1.9%).

Meanwhile, “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” group index declined by 1.4 percent on account of a decrease in the price of a queen size sheet set (26.9%, dinner plates (11.0%) and dinner forks (6.5%).

The 1.0 percent decrease in “Hotels and Restaurants” group index was due to a decrease in the price for accommodation services at overseas universities Mona (27.3%) and St. Augustine (8.0%).

The “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” group index recorded a decrease of 0.1 percent due mainly to a decrease in the price of electricity (0.3%).

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 4.8 percent for the month of January 2024 compared to 5.8 percent for January 2023. The groups that accounted for the largest increases during the period were, “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (9.0%), “Clothing and Footwear” (8.9%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (7.1%), “Recreation and Culture” (5.9%) and “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (4.8%). (See table 3).

The consumer price index decreased by 0.6 percent for January 2024. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 4.8 due to relative price changes during the month of January 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	
		January 2024	December 2023			
INCREASED						
Spaghetti	454g Pk	8.90	7.17	1.73	24.1	
Turkey wings	1LB	4.92	4.83	0.09	1.9	
Chicken wings	1LB	6.22	6.01	0.21	3.5	
Sausage	141g Tin	3.90	3.50	0.40	11.4	
Corned beef	340g Tin	10.34	9.39	0.95	10.1	
Sardine	106g Tin	4.72	4.29	0.43	10.0	
Canola Oil	1.42l Bottle	33.60	32.12	1.48	4.6	
Ripe plantains	1LB	2.52	2.06	0.46	22.3	
Garlic - loose	1LB	8.18	7.93	0.25	3.2	
Green pigeon peas	1LB	15.00	12.14	2.86	23.6	
Whole kernel corn	432g Tin	6.45	5.54	0.91	16.4	
Tequila	750ml Bottle	86.20	70.00	16.20	23.1	
Irish cream	1l Bottle	128.04	117.30	10.74	9.2	
Wine - local	26oz Bottle	33.27	30.55	2.72	8.9	
Cigarette	10 Pk	4.19	3.88	0.31	8.0	
Men's t-shirt	Each	25.95	19.95	6.00	30.1	
Women blouse	Each	44.95	37.34	7.61	20.4	
Women dress shoes	Pair	109.00	77.37	31.63	40.9	
Drugs for diabetes, 500mg	30 Tabltes	6.00	5.00	1.00	20.0	
Anti-inflammatory pain medication, 75mg	20 Tablets	7.07	5.48	1.59	29.0	
Chest x-ray	Each	160.00	150.00	10.00	6.7	
Passenger airfare from St. Vicent and the Grenadines to:						
	Toronto	1 Month	3292.85	2181.90	1110.95	50.9
	Miami	1 Month	2331.10	2067.56	263.54	12.7
	Barbados	1 Way	501.54	477.09	24.45	5.1
Tyres 195-50-R15	Each	226.65	154.00	72.65	47.2	
Used cars	Each	36060.99	31756.91	4304.08	13.6	
Cat Food	156g Tin	6.03	5.62	0.41	7.3	
Dog Food	17lb Pk	133.05	127.12	5.93	4.7	
Television - 50 inches	Each	1684.56	1557.81	126.75	8.1	
Car insurance - comprehensive	1 Year	1174.00	1025.00	149.00	14.5	
Car insurance - third party	1 Year	471.49	459.23	12.26	2.7	
Deodorant	74g Bottle	17.90	15.13	2.77	18.3	
Mouthwash	500ml Bottle	7.65	6.89	0.76	11.0	
DECREASED						
Electricity consumption	150Kwh	162.29	162.82	-0.53	-0.3	
Sheet set - queen size	Each	164.95	225.50	-60.55	-26.9	
Plates	Each	12.57	14.13	-1.56	-11.0	
Accomodation Services - Hall of residence:						
	Mona	Semester	2023.36	2781.36	-758.00	-27.3
	St. Augustine	Semester	2539.84	2759.30	-219.46	-8.0

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		January 2024	January 2023		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Rice - Loose	1lb	2.23	1.99	0.24	12.06
Rice - Packaged	2kg	9.73	9.77	-0.04	-0.41
Flour - Loose	1 lb	1.92	1.91	0.01	0.52
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	15.89	14.75	1.14	7.73
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (white)	Each	5.42	5.14	0.28	5.45
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	0.12	1.95
Crix - salted crackers, White	288g (3 pk)	6.57	6.51	0.06	0.92
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	5.57	5.26	0.31	5.89
Beef - Fresh	1 lb	12.00	10.00	2.00	20.00
Pigtail - salted	1 lb	10.44	12.10	-1.66	-13.72
Chicken - Leg Quarters	1 lb	3.84	3.72	0.12	3.23
Chicken - Backs	1 lb	2.66	2.66	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Wings	1 lb	6.22	5.42	0.80	14.76
Turkey Wings	1 lb	4.92	4.96	-0.04	-0.81
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	9.58	9.03	0.55	6.09
Corned beef	340g	9.55	10.15	-0.60	-5.91
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	1 lb	12.28	12.00	0.28	2.33
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	1 lb	5.12	4.56	0.56	12.28
Fish - Fresh (Robin)	1 lb	5.12	4.55	0.57	12.53
Codfish	1 lb	14.67	15.15	-0.48	-3.17
Sardine in soya oil	106g Tin	5.62	5.13	0.49	9.55
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	4.16	3.92	0.24	6.12
Powdered milk - full cream	1 lb	8.35	8.59	-0.24	-2.79
Eggs	1 Doz	14.26	12.10	2.16	17.85
Margarine	445g Tub	13.60	12.68	0.92	7.26
Soya bean oil	1Litre	15.86	16.70	-0.84	-5.03
Coconut oil	750ml Bottle	36.92	32.54	4.38	13.46
Bananas (ripe)	1 lb	1.79	1.63	0.16	9.82
Limes	1 lb	5.18	3.89	1.29	33.16
Tomatoes	1 lb	9.15	7.58	1.57	20.71
Sweet Potatoes	1 lb	3.93	2.76	1.17	42.39
Yams	1 lb	4.66	3.09	1.57	50.81
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	9.51	-0.41	-4.31
Orange Juice	1 Litre box	9.67	8.35	1.32	15.81
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.95	5.91	0.04	0.68

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		January 2024	January 2023		
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)	4.19	3.60	0.59	16.39
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	33.27	28.41	4.86	17.11
Vodka	750ml Bot.	53.83	51.12	2.71	5.30
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR					
Textile material - Cotton	1Yd.	14.09	14.09	0.00	0.00
Textile material - Tetrex	1Yd.	12.95	11.35	1.60	14.10
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	123.12	113.46	9.66	8.51
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	89.00	73.19	15.81	21.60
Women's Blouse	Each	44.95	36.07	8.88	24.62
School shirt - white, size 10	Each	16.45	15.41	1.04	6.75
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	328.57	299.32	29.25	9.77
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	37.95	45.76	-7.81	-17.07
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD					
EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD					
MAINTENANCE					
Bed - queen size	Each	2,882.52	2,866.61	15.91	0.56
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	5.19	5.23	-0.04	-0.76
Toilet tissue, 280 sheets per roll	1 Roll	1.55	1.92	-0.37	-19.27

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		January 2024	January 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	6.26	0.43	6.87
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	5.25	5.25	0.00	0.00
Dental Care	Visit	149.47	146.21	3.26	2.23
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	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	501.54	501.54	0.00	0.00
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	1,429.08	1,381.48	47.60	3.45
Tablet - 10.1"	Each	368.18	341.52	26.66	7.81
Laptop Computer - 8 GB	Each	1,679.07	1,597.21	81.86	5.13
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	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
January 2024 Compared With January 2023

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		January 2024	January 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	13.42	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	22.31	23.70	-1.39	-5.86
Toothpaste	170g Tube	15.17	13.75	1.42	10.33
Roll -on	75ml bottle	8.26	8.15	0.11	1.35
Sanitary napkins, regular, with wings	10 per pack	8.39	5.75	2.64	45.91
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	471.49	432.62	38.87	8.98

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

	Groups	Weight	December 2023	January 2024	January 2023	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month December	Year January
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	155.3	155.7	142.9	0.3	9.0
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	135.5	136.7	130.8	0.9	4.5
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	111.7	113.8	104.5	1.9	8.9
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	107.9	107.8	106.9	-0.1	0.8
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	133.6	131.7	125.7	-1.4	4.8
06.	Health	1.79	123.3	124.9	121.3	1.3	3.0
07.	Transport	11.84	139.4	143.5	140.5	2.9	2.1
08.	Communication	9.41	114.5	114.5	112.0	0.0	2.2
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	116.6	118.7	112.1	1.8	5.9
10.	Education	1.32	114.5	114.5	111.9	0.0	2.3
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	137.9	136.5	131.9	-1.0	3.5
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	117.8	118.5	110.6	0.6	7.1
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	126.5	127.2	121.4	0.6	4.8

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for January 2023

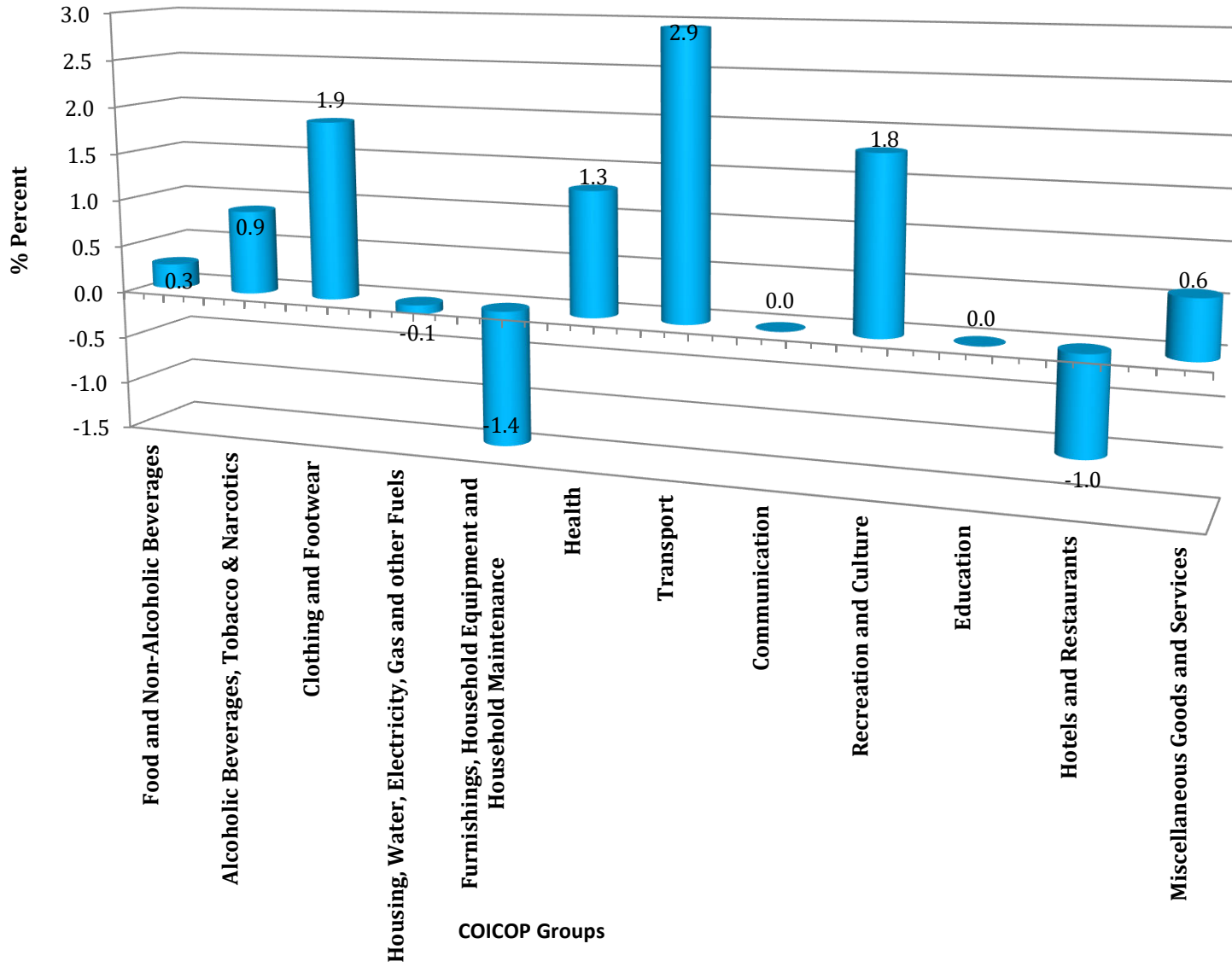


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	December 2023	January 2024	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						December 2023	January 2024		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	155.3	155.7	0.3	3,402.62	3,411.39	8.8	12.5
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	135.5	136.7	0.9	524.39	529.03	4.6	6.6
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	111.7	113.8	1.9	359.67	366.44	6.8	9.7
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	107.9	107.8	-0.1	3,243.47	3,240.47	-3.0	-4.3
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	133.6	131.7	-1.4	880.42	867.90	-12.5	-17.9
6.	Health	1.79	123.3	124.9	1.3	220.71	223.57	2.9	4.1
7.	Transport	11.84	139.4	143.5	2.9	1,650.50	1,699.04	48.5	69.3
8.	Communication	9.41	114.5	114.5	0.0	1,077.45	1,077.45	0.0	0.0
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	116.6	118.7	1.8	444.25	452.25	8.0	11.4
10.	Education	1.32	114.5	114.5	0.0	151.14	151.14	0.0	0.0
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	137.9	136.5	-1.0	257.87	255.26	-2.6	-3.7
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	117.8	118.5	0.6	507.72	510.74	3.0	4.3
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	126.5	127.2	0.6	12,650.00	12,720.00	70.0	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	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