



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



THE STATISTICAL OFFICE

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

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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APRIL 2024

The consumer price index increased by 0.9 percent for the month of April 2024 compared to 0.5 percent for the month of March 2024 (*see table 3*).

During the month of April 2024, the “All Items” index was registered at 128.9 in comparison to 127.8 for the month of March 2024. Nine (9) groups recorded an increase during the month namely; “Transport” (2.4%), “Recreation and Culture” (2.0%), “Hotels and Restaurants” (1.0%), “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.9%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.8%), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.4%), “Communication” (0.3%), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.3%) and “Health” (0.2%). Two (2) groups recorded a decrease during the period; “Clothing & Footwear” (0.9%) and “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance: (0.1%). “Education” is the only group that remained unchanged, (*see table 3*).

The “Transport” index grew by 2.4 percent as a result of an increase in the price of petrol (7.5 percent and passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to several destinations which included Toronto, Canada (30.6%), London, United Kingdom (13.5%) and Miami, U.S.A, (10.7%).

The 2.0 percent increase in the group index for “Recreation and Culture” was due mainly to higher prices for a tablet (43.3%), a laptop (15.3%) and a 65” smart television (10.9%).

“Hotels and Restaurants” grew by 1.0 percent on account of an increase in the price of school meals. The price of a roti and a slice of pizza increased by 25.0 percent while a chicken lunch by 20.0 percent.

The group index for “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” increased by 0.9 percent on account of a 5.4 percent upward movement in the price of electricity. This increase is due to a higher fuel surcharge rate which moved from 59.74 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of March 2024 to 65.61 cents per kilowatt hour for April 2024.

“Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” group index recorded a 0.8 percent upward movement as a result of increase in the cost of food items such as; sweet potatoes (17.9%), eddoes (13.6%), orange juice (9.9%), spaghetti (9.6%), red seedless grapes (8.3%), garlic (7.0%), sardines in soya oil (6.8%), cucumbers (6.7%), chicken wings (4.7%) and loose rice (2.3%).

The 0.4 increase in the group index for “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” is due to an increase in the price of a brandy (7.1%), a whiskey (4.2%) and local wine (6.3%).

“Communication” recorded growth of 0.3 percent as a result of a 1.6 percent increase in the price of internet services. Similarly, the group index for “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” increased by 0.3 percent due mainly to a 3.7 percent increase in the price of a bath soap and 2.6 percent for the price of panty liners.

The 0.2 percent increase in the “Health” index is due to a higher price for drugs used in the treatment of hypertension (5.3%) and pain relievers (4.6%).

Meanwhile, the “Clothing and Footwear” group index declined by 0.9 percent on account of lower prices for men’s ware which included boxer briefs (32.1%), tie (16.7%), vest (12.1%) and sandals (10.6%). Also, there was a decrease of 15.6% for women’s dress shoes.

The 0.1 percent decrease in the group index for “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” is due primarily to a decline of 14.0 percent for a detergent powder.

The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 4.8 percent for the month of April 2024 compared to 5.2 percent for April 2023. The groups that represented the largest increases during the period were, “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (9.7%), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (9.4%), “Transport” (7.0%), “Clothing and Footwear” (6.6%), and “Recreation and Culture” (4.5%) (*See table 3*).

The consumer price index increased for April 2024. The point-to-point inflation rate stood at 4.8 due to relative price changes during the month of April 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
		April 2024	March 2024		
INCREASED					
Loose rice	Lb	2.24	2.19	0.05	2.3
Crackers	5oz pk	3.10	2.79	0.31	11.1
Spaghetti	400g pk	5.50	5.02	0.48	9.6
Chicken wings	Lb	6.73	6.43	0.30	4.7
Smoked herring	Lb	16.29	15.35	0.94	6.1
Sardines in soya oil	106g	5.65	5.29	0.36	6.8
Red seedless grapes	Lb	24.34	22.48	1.86	8.3
Garlic	227g	3.53	3.30	0.23	7.0
Cucumbers	Lb	5.71	5.35	0.36	6.7
Pumpkin	Lb	3.68	3.48	0.20	5.7
Eddoes	Lb	4.67	4.11	0.56	13.6
Sweet potatoes	Lb	5.06	4.29	0.77	17.9
Orange juice	1 litre box	8.10	7.37	0.73	9.9
Whiskey, red label	750ml bottle	77.95	74.80	3.15	4.2
Brandy	700ml bottle	129.86	121.28	8.58	7.1
Table wine, local	750ml bottle	34.49	32.45	2.04	6.3
Electricity consumption	150Kwh	173.42	164.61	8.81	5.4
Hypertension medication, 20mg	28 tablets pk	8.94	8.49	0.45	5.3
Pain relievers, 500mg	32 tables pk	3.20	3.06	0.14	4.6
Petrol	1 gal.	16.73	15.56	1.17	7.5
Passenger airfaire from St Vincent and the Grenadines to:					
<i>Miami</i>	1 month	2497.78	2256.66	241.12	10.7
<i>Canada</i>	1 month	2973.17	2276.42	696.75	30.6
<i>London</i>	1 month	2762.44	2432.90	329.54	13.5
Internet	1 month	125.00	123.00	2.00	1.6
Television, 65" smart TV	Each	5659.82	5104.39	555.43	10.9
Tablet, 10.1"	Each	513.13	358.18	154.95	43.3
Laptop	Each	1897.90	1645.75	252.15	15.3
School meals:					
<i>Chicken lunch</i>	Each	6.00	5.00	1.00	20.0
<i>Roti</i>	Each	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.0
<i>Pizza</i>	1 slice	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.0
Bath soap	100g	4.19	4.04	0.15	3.7
Panty liners	24 pc pk	5.83	5.68	0.15	2.6
DECREASED					
Men's vest	Each	19.41	22.07	-2.66	-12.1
Men's boxer briefs	Each	16.95	24.95	-8.00	-32.1
Men's tie	Each	15.00	18.00	-3.00	-16.7
Men's sandals	1 pair	119.00	133.09	-14.09	-10.6
Women's dress shoes	1 pair	92.00	109.00	-17.00	-15.6
Detergent, powder	500g pk	4.56	5.30	-0.74	-14.0
Eggs	1 doz.	12.46	13.43	-0.97	-7.2
Green plantains	Lb	1.43	2.05	-0.62	-30.2
Breadfruit	Each	2.00	3.00	-1.00	-33.3
Tomatoes	Lb	9.15	9.76	-0.61	-6.2
Sweet Peppers	Lb	11.92	13.47	-1.55	-11.5
Salt	Lb	1.16	1.19	-0.03	-2.5

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		April 2024	April 2023		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Rice - Loose	1lb	2.24	1.99	0.25	12.56
Rice - Packaged	2kg	9.71	9.97	-0.26	-2.61
Flour - Loose	1 lb	1.92	1.89	0.03	1.59
Flour - Packaged (white)	2kg	9.22	9.16	0.06	0.66
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2kg	9.62	9.60	0.02	0.21
Cornflakes	510g Box	16.08	15.62	0.46	2.94
Bread - Large Sandwich Loaf (white)	Each	5.42	5.21	0.21	4.03
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	6.53	0.04	0.61
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	5.60	5.15	0.45	8.74
Beef - Fresh	1 lb	12.00	10.00	2.00	20.00
Pigtail - salted	1 lb	10.56	12.22	-1.66	-13.58
Chicken - Leg Quarters	1 lb	3.95	3.59	0.36	10.03
Chicken - Backs	1 lb	2.66	2.77	-0.11	-3.97
Chicken - Wings	1 lb	6.73	5.64	1.09	19.33
Turkey Wings	1 lb	4.88	5.25	-0.37	-7.05
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	9.64	8.95	0.69	7.71
Corned beef	340g	9.90	10.01	-0.11	-1.10
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	1 lb	12.00	12.93	-0.93	-7.19
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	1 lb	6.67	5.00	1.67	33.40
Fish - Fresh (Robin)	1 lb	6.67	5.00	1.67	33.40
Codfish	1 lb	14.48	14.82	-0.34	-2.29
Sardine in soya oil	106g Tin	5.76	5.18	0.58	11.20
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	4.10	4.17	-0.07	-1.68
Powdered milk - full cream	1 lb	8.15	8.55	-0.40	-4.68
Eggs	1 Doz	12.46	12.31	0.15	1.22
Margarine	445g Tub	13.64	13.20	0.44	3.33
Soya bean oil	1Litre	15.80	17.51	-1.71	-9.77
Coconut oil	750ml Bottle	37.00	38.85	-1.85	-4.76
Bananas (ripe)	1 lb	1.79	1.59	0.20	12.58
Limes	1 lb	5.05	4.98	0.07	1.41
Tomatoes	1 lb	9.15	6.45	2.70	41.86
Sweet Potatoes	1 lb	5.06	3.37	1.69	50.15
Yams	1 lb	4.66	3.43	1.23	35.86
Sugar - Brown (loose)	1 lb	2.29	2.27	0.02	0.88
Sugar - White (loose)	1 lb	2.60	2.61	-0.01	-0.38
Ice cream	1 Litre Tub	18.06	18.06	0.00	0.00
Tomato Ketchup	750ml Bottle	9.58	9.53	0.05	0.52
Orange Juice	1 Litre box	9.49	8.96	0.53	5.92
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.96	5.95	0.01	0.17

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		April 2024	April 2023		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	46.52	45.74	0.78	1.71
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	5.00	4.90	0.10	2.04
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	4.21	3.81	0.40	10.50
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	34.49	28.41	6.08	21.40
Vodka	750ml Bot.	53.35	51.72	1.63	3.15
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR					
Textile material - Cotton	1Yd.	16.07	14.09	1.98	14.05
Textile material - Tetrex	1Yd.	12.95	12.44	0.51	4.10
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	75.98	73.48	2.50	3.40
Men's Jeans (long)	Pair	68.25	64.62	3.63	5.62
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	141.00	113.46	27.54	24.27
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	79.00	73.19	5.81	7.94
Women's Blouse	Each	44.95	36.73	8.22	22.38
School shirt - white, size 10	Each	17.45	16.45	1.00	6.08
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	350.83	361.18	-10.35	-2.87
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	37.95	45.76	-7.81	-17.07
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD					
EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD					
MAINTENANCE					
Bed - queen size	Each	2641.17	2,866.61	-225.44	-7.86
Sheets - queen size, 300 thread count, 100% cotton	Each	193.97	199.69	-5.72	-2.86
Dinner forks	Each	6.93	6.95	-0.02	-0.29
Powder detergent	500g Pk	4.56	6.14	-1.58	-25.73
Toilet tissue, 280 sheets per roll	1 Roll	1.56	1.65	-0.09	-5.45

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

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		April 2024	April 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	6.78	6.70	0.08	1.19
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	4.99	4.99	0.00	0.00
Dental Care	Visit	149.47	149.47	0.00	0.00
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	16.73	15.68	1.05	6.70
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	434.40	477.09	-42.69	-8.95
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	125.00	120.00	5.00	4.17
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	546.45	-33.32	-6.10
Laptop Computer - 8 GB	Each	1,897.90	1,597.21	300.69	18.83
Dog Food (Canned)	375 g Tin	14.00	14.39	-0.39	-2.71
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
April 2024 Compared With April 2023

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		April 2024	April 2023		
EDUCATION					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	312.50	312.50	0.00	0.00
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	21.75	0.00	0.00
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	12.49	1.47	11.77
School meals - Bread and Chicken	Each	4.33	3.67	0.66	17.98
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES					
Women's Hairdressing (Relaxer)	Visit	72.46	72.46	0.00	0.00
Men's Haircut, Regular	Visit	15.00	15.00	0.00	0.00
Disposable diapers, Medium, 22pcs	1 pack	22.31	23.70	-1.39	-5.86
Toothpaste	170g Tube	15.17	13.32	1.85	13.89
Roll -on	75ml bottle	8.26	8.15	0.11	1.35
Sanitary napkins, regular, with wings	10 per pack	8.47	8.50	-0.03	-0.35
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	459.28	12.21	2.66

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

	Groups	Weight	March 2024	April 2024	April 2023	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month February	Year March
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	157.5	158.8	145.1	0.8	9.4
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	136.9	137.5	134.1	0.4	2.5
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	115.0	114.0	106.9	-0.9	6.6
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	108.1	109.1	110.4	0.9	-1.2
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	140.1	139.9	127.5	-0.1	9.7
06.	Health	1.79	123.3	123.6	123.4	0.2	0.2
07.	Transport	11.84	140.2	143.5	134.1	2.4	7.0
08.	Communication	9.41	114.4	114.8	112.1	0.3	2.4
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	118.6	121.0	115.8	2.0	4.5
10.	Education	1.32	114.5	114.5	113.1	0.0	1.2
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	138.4	139.8	136.3	1.0	2.6
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	118.4	118.7	115.3	0.3	2.9
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	127.8	128.9	123.0	0.9	4.8

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for April 2024

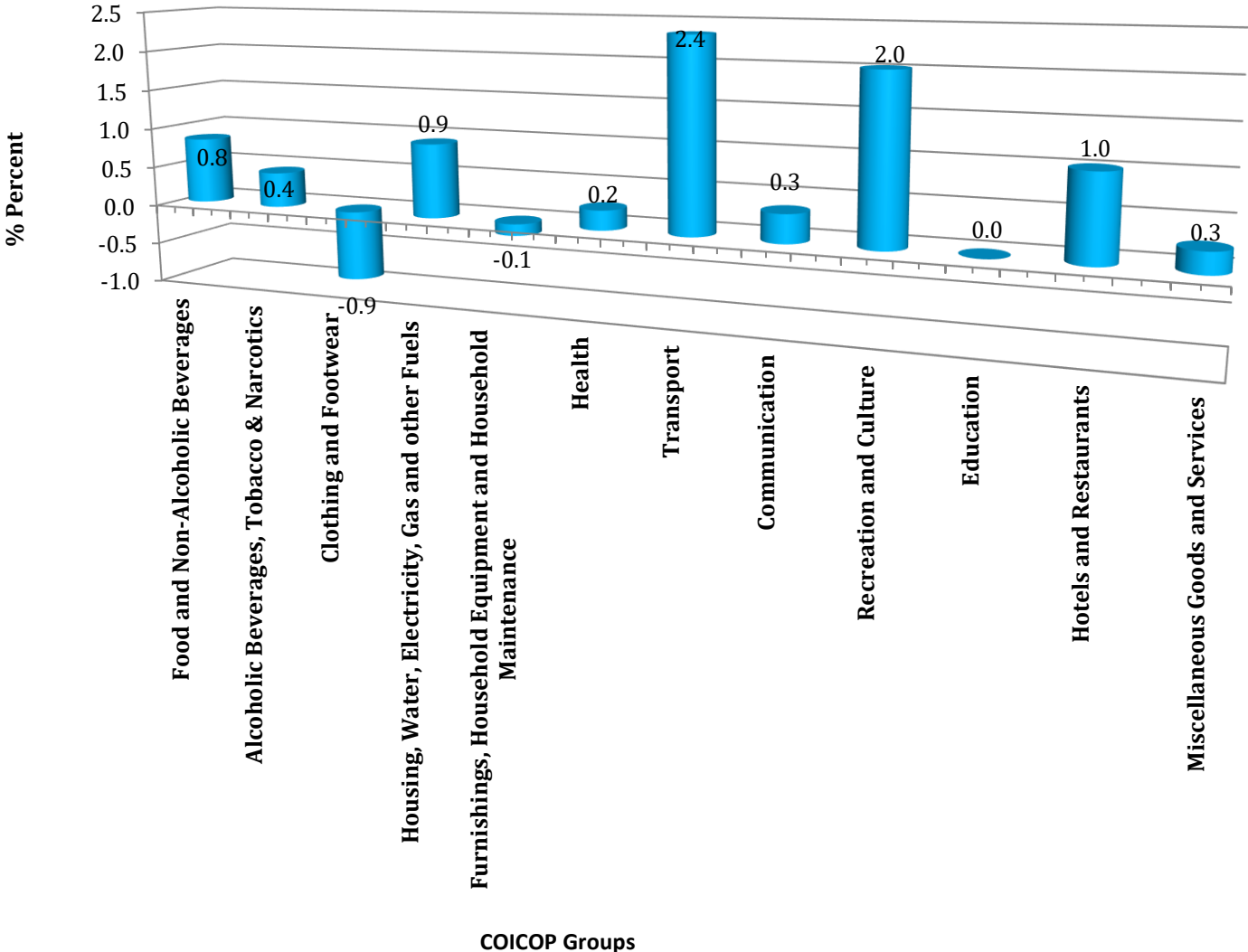


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index by Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution to Change

	Groups	Weight	March 2024	April 2024	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	% Contribution to Change
						March 2024	April 2024		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	157.5	158.8	0.8	3,450.83	3,479.31	28.5	25.9
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	136.9	137.5	0.4	529.80	532.13	2.3	2.1
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	115.0	114.0	-0.9	370.30	367.08	-3.2	-2.9
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	108.1	109.1	0.9	3,249.49	3,279.55	30.1	27.3
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	140.1	139.9	-0.1	923.26	921.94	-1.3	-1.2
6.	Health	1.79	123.3	123.6	0.2	220.71	221.24	0.5	0.5
7.	Transport	11.84	140.2	143.5	2.4	1,659.97	1,699.04	39.1	35.5
8.	Communication	9.41	114.4	114.8	0.3	1,076.50	1,080.27	3.8	3.4
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	118.6	121.0	2.0	451.87	461.01	9.1	8.3
10.	Education	1.32	114.5	114.5	0.0	151.14	151.14	0.0	0.0
11.	Hotels and Restaurants	1.87	138.4	139.8	1.0	258.77	261.43	2.7	2.4
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	118.4	118.7	0.3	510.30	511.60	1.3	1.2
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	127.8	128.9	0.9	12,780.00	12,890.00	110.0	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
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
March	127.8	157.5	136.9	115.0	108.1	140.1	123.3	140.2	114.4	118.6	114.5	138.4	118.4
April	128.9	158.8	137.5	114.0	109.1	139.9	123.6	143.5	114.8	121.0	114.5	139.8	118.7