



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



**THE STATISTICAL OFFICE
CENTRAL PLANNING DIVISION
MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING ETC.
ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

Tel: 784 457 2921, 456 1111 Ext 592/353

Fax: 784 456 2430,

Email: svg.stats@mail.gov.vc

Website: <http://www.stats.gov.vc>

Vol. 7 No.8

August 2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
Analysis –	1
Table No.	
1 Average Retail Price of Selected Items	3
2 Average Retail Price of Selected Items AUGUST 2017 compared With AUGUST 2016	4
3 The Consumer Price Index by main groups	8
4 The Consumer Price Index contribution to change by Groups	10
5 Monthly Items by Group	11
Chart No.	
1 COICOP Percentage Change for the Month of AUGUST 2017	9

* * *

AUGUST 2017

The consumer price index recorded a decrease of 0.1 percent for the month of August 2017. The “All Items” index was registered at 108.4 for the month of August 2017 compared to 108.5 for the month of July 2017. The “point-to-point” inflation rate stood at 2.0 percent.

Seven (7) groups recorded increases during the month, “Transport” (0.6 percent), “Communication” (0.6 percent), “Recreation and Culture” (0.4 percent), “Clothing and Footwear” (0.3 percent), “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.2 percent), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” (0.2 percent) and “Food and Non- Alcoholic Beverages” (0.1 percent). Two (2) groups recorded decreases for the month, “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other fuels” (0.8 percent) and “Health” (0.6 percent).

Three (3) groups remained unchanged “Education”, “Restaurants and Hotels” and “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance”

The increase in the group “Transport” (0.6 percent) is due to higher prices for passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to St. Lucia (22.9 percent) and Toronto (4.2 percent), whereas, increases in domestic mobile-to-mobile phone calls (1.0 percent) and mobile-to-mobile cellular phone calls to the Caribbean (1.0 percent) is responsible for the 0.6 percent rise in the group index “Communication”.

Meanwhile, the index for the group “Recreation and Culture” rose by 0.4 percent as a result of 1.0 percent increase in the cost of a television. Similarly, the “Clothing and Footwear” group index

grew by 0.3 percent due to higher prices for girl's jeans (25.0 percent) and a baby vest (16.8 percent).

The "Miscellaneous Goods and Services" group index increased by 0.2 percent due to higher prices for women's hair dress: relaxer and treatment (4.9 percent) and (3.5 percent) respectively.

The growth in the "Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics" group index (0.2 percent) resulted from a rise in the price of whisky (6.1 percent) and imported rum (1.6 percent). Correspondingly, the "Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages" grew by 0.1 percent as a result of increases in the prices of some food items such as sliced bacon (27.6 percent), instant yeast (14.8 percent), dasheens (7.4 percent), red apple (5.2 percent) and powdered milk (3.8 percent).

The decline in the group index "Housing, Water, Electricity Gas and Other Fuels" (0.8 percent) resulted from decreases in the cost of cooking gas: 100lb cylinder (5.6 percent), 25lb cylinder (5.5 percent) and 20lb cylinder (5.3 percent) as well as a decline in the cost of electricity of (3.3 percent).

Likewise, the decrease in the "Health" group index (0.6 percent) is attributed to lower price for a general doctor consultation (14.3 percent).

Table 2.1
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
August 2017 Compared With August 2016

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2017	August 2016		
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.61	6.46	0.15	2.32
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.81	2.73	0.08	2.93
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.58	1.59	-0.01	-0.63
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.46	4.56	-0.10	-2.19
Turkey Wings	Lb.	2.90	2.45	0.45	18.37
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Robins)	Lb.	4.00	5.00	-1.00	-20.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	5.64	5.26	0.38	7.16
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	8.16	7.90	0.26	3.29
Codfish	Lb.	14.46	14.04	0.42	2.99
Cornflakes	12 oz	14.10	13.16	0.94	7.14
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	4.71	4.64	0.07	1.40
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.26	3.11	0.15	4.72
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	3.48	3.29	0.19	5.78
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	2.02	2.02	0.00	0.00
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.25	4.25	0.00	0.00
Eggs	Doz	8.52	8.96	-0.44	-4.91
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	9.13	8.68	0.45	5.18
Sugar - Brown (loose)	Lb.	1.56	1.54	0.02	1.30
Sugar - White (loose)	Lb.	1.95	1.72	0.23	13.37
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.36	1.39	-0.03	-2.16
Flour - Packaged (white)	2 kg	6.75	6.67	0.08	1.20
Flour - Packaged (wholewheat)	2 kg	7.29	7.29	0.00	0.00
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.96	1.90	0.06	3.16
Rice - Package	2 kg	10.55	10.51	0.04	0.41
Bananas	Lb.	1.36	1.34	0.02	1.49
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.58	2.58	0.00	0.00
Eddoes	Lb.	3.01	3.13	-0.12	-3.83
Dasheens	Lb.	2.02	2.15	-0.13	-6.05
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.22	2.19	0.03	1.37
Oranges	Each	0.80	0.79	0.01	1.27
Tomatoes	Lb.	5.30	4.19	1.11	26.49
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	9.03	8.81	0.22	2.50
Vegetable Oil	Litre	12.38	12.42	-0.04	-0.36
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.78	10.66	0.12	1.13
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail (not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.55	2.31	0.24	10.39
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.68	5.65	0.03	0.53

Table 2.2
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
August 2017 Compared With August 2016

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2017	August 2016		
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO & NARCOTICS					
Rum - Local (White)	750 ml Bot.	29.89	29.02	0.87	3.00
Beer - Local	280 ml Bot.	4.55	4.61	-0.06	-1.30
Cigarettes	Pkt. (10)	4.14	4.12	0.02	0.49
Table wine (local)	26 oz Bot.	21.24	19.00	2.24	11.79
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR					
Textile material - Terelyne	Yd.	47.95	47.95	0.00	0.00
Textile material - Linen	Yd.	17.95	17.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	69.95	69.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Jeans (long) - size 30	Each	49.95	49.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	79.79	79.79	0.00	0.00
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	89.77	89.77	0.00	0.00
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit (polyester) large	Each	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Blouse (cotton/Spandex)	Each	29.95	29.95	0.00	0.00
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY					
GAS AND OTHER FUELS					
Rent :					
Unfurnished House -2 Bedrooms	Month	567.86	567.86	0.00	0.00
Unfurnished House -3 Bedrooms	Month	612.50	612.50	0.00	0.00
Furnished Apartment - 2 Bedrooms	Month	791.67	791.67	0.00	0.00
Cement - Portland (grey)	94 Lbs	20.89	24.90	-4.01	-16.10
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	Length	94.24	86.62	7.62	8.80
Oil Paint	Gallon	112.87	105.00	7.87	7.50
Lumber -Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	Length	69.18	69.12	0.06	0.09
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gallons	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.00
Kerosene	Gallon	6.61	8.33	-1.72	-20.65
Charcoal	Sack	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	37.52	31.25	6.27	20.06
Electricity Consumption Charge	140 KWH	105.13	103.91	1.22	1.17
FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1,162.88	1,162.50	0.38	0.03
Double size sheets - coloured/cotton	Each	105.00	125.00	-20.00	-16.00
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	55.84	52.76	3.08	5.84
Laundry Soap	Each	1.24	1.15	0.09	7.83
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	6.16	6.35	-0.19	-2.99

Table 2.3
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
August 2017 Compared With August 2016

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2017	August 2016		
HEALTH					
Doctor's Fee - Gynaecologist	Visit	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00
Eye Care	Test	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Hospitalisation (Private Ward)	Day	75.00	75.00	0.00	0.00
Drug for Hypertension	Month supply	3.50	3.50	0.00	0.00
Drug for Diabetes	Month supply	12.57	12.57	0.00	0.00
Cough, Cold Preparation	125 ml.	15.09	15.09	0.00	0.00
Dental Care	Visit	123.33	123.33	0.00	0.00
Chest X- ray	Test	150.00	120.00	30.00	25.00
TRANSPORT					
Petrol - Unleaded	Gallon	11.08	10.30	0.78	7.57
Vehicle License (car) - not exd. 2000 lbs	Year	590.00	590.00	0.00	0.00
Bus Fare - Mesopotamia	One Way	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00
Boat Fare - Bequia	One Way	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
COMMUNICATION					
Telephone Service - rental of line- domestic	Month	23.66	23.46	0.20	0.85
Telephone - Consumption Charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.00	0.00
Internet Charge	Month	102.14	101.70	0.44	0.43
Fixed Line Domestic Rate - peak	Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to Mobile - domestic	Minute	0.98	0.91	0.07	7.69
RECREATION AND CULTURE					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	1993.82	1,997.89	-4.07	-0.20
Cable TV Basic Charge	Month	74.75	74.75	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3832.40	3,830.12	2.28	0.06
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	2071.53	2,070.30	1.23	0.06
Car Remote Control	Each	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	3.82	3.56	0.26	7.30
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	350.00	275.00	75.00	27.27

Table 2.4
Average Retail Price of Selected Items
August 2017 Compared With August 2016

Items	Unit of Quantity	Average EC\$		Change in Price	Percentage Change in Price
		August 2017	August 2016		
EDUCATION					
Pre-Primary - Private	Month	215.00	205.00	10.00	4.88
Primary School Fee - Private	Term	825.00	825.00	0.00	0.00
Secondary School Fee - Private	Term	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Newspaper - Local	Each	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00
Exercise Book - Primary - 24 leaves	Each	0.78	0.78	0.00	0.00
Lead Pencils	Each	0.87	0.82	0.05	6.10
Mathematics Textbook - From 4	Each	79.72	79.72	0.00	0.00
Tuition for local evening classes	Per Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	13.96	13.86	0.10	0.72
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	15.49	13.86	1.63	11.76
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	17.05	16.85	0.20	1.19
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES					
Toilet Soap	125g	3.56	3.51	0.05	1.28
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.01	9.07	-0.06	-0.66
Men's Haircut	Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Hairdressing (Relaxer)	Visit	69.82	64.81	5.01	7.73
Disposable Diapers (medium)	10 per Pk.	12.96	12.85	0.11	0.86
Health Insurance - Group (family)	≥3 Persons	307.00	307.00	0.00	0.00
Legal Expenses (Affidavit)	Fee	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00

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

	Groups	Weight	July 2017	August 2017	August 2016	Percentage Change Over Previous:	
						Month July	Year August
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	114.2	114.3	111.3	0.1	2.7
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	117.6	117.8	114.4	0.2	3.0
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.9	105.2	105.1	0.3	0.1
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	99.8	99.0	98.1	-0.8	0.9
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	108.7	108.7	103.2	0.0	5.3
06.	Health	1.79	107.4	106.8	107.4	-0.6	-0.6
07.	Transport	11.84	121.6	122.3	121.3	0.6	0.8
08.	Communication	9.41	111.2	111.9	106.8	0.6	4.8
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	104.1	104.5	104.0	0.4	0.5
10.	Education	1.32	109.3	109.3	108.5	0.0	0.7
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	105.8	105.8	102.4	0.0	3.3
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	102.6	102.8	101.4	0.2	1.4
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	108.5	108.4	106.3	-0.1	2.0

Chart 1. COICOP Groups Percentage Change for August 2017

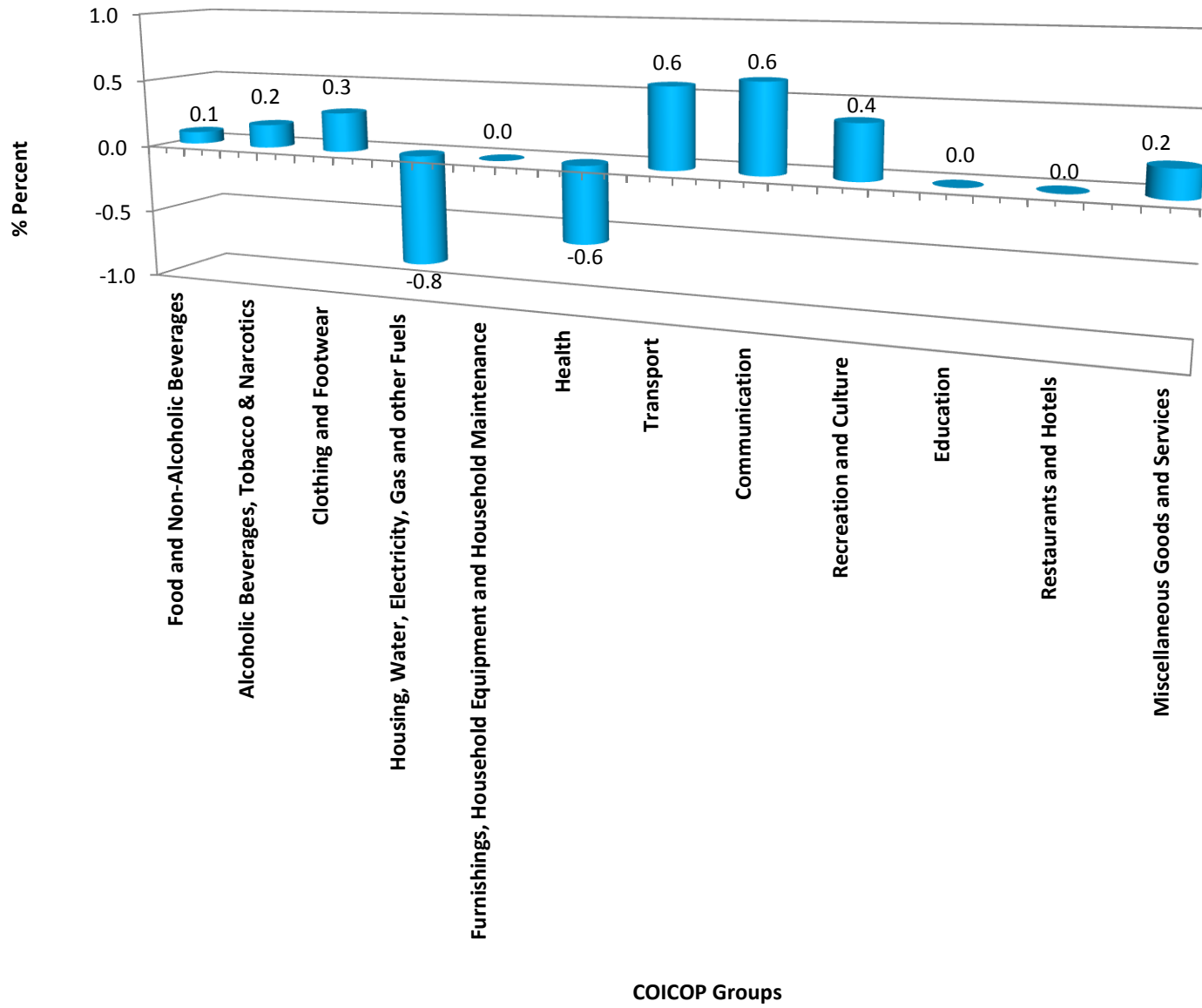


Table 4
The Consumer Price Index By Main Groups
January 2010 = 100
Contribution To Change

	Groups	Weight	July 2017	August 2017	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	Contribution to Change %
						July 2017	August 2017		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	114.2	114.3	0.1	2,502.12	2,504.31	2.2	-21.9
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	117.6	117.8	0.2	455.11	455.89	0.8	-7.7
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	104.9	105.2	0.3	337.78	338.74	1.0	-9.7
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	99.8	99.0	-0.8	2,999.99	2,975.94	-24.0	240.5
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	108.7	108.7	0.0	716.33	716.33	0.0	0.0
6.	Health	1.79	107.4	106.8	-0.6	192.25	191.17	-1.1	10.7
7.	Transport	11.84	121.6	122.3	0.6	1,439.74	1,448.03	8.3	-82.9
8.	Communication	9.41	111.2	111.9	0.6	1,046.39	1,052.98	6.6	-65.9
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	104.1	104.5	0.4	396.62	398.15	1.5	-15.2
10.	Education	1.32	109.3	109.3	0.0	144.28	144.28	0.0	0.0
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	105.8	105.8	0.0	197.85	197.85	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	102.6	102.8	0.2	442.21	443.07	0.9	-8.6
	ALL ITEMS	100.00	108.5	108.4	-0.1	10,850.00	10,840.00	-10.0	100.0

Table 5
Monthly Index - 2017
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	Restaurants & Hotels	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	106.7	112.1	116.8	104.8	99.5	103.1	107.6	118.7	106.8	103.9	109.3	102.7	101.5
February	106.4	111.5	116.5	104.9	98.8	102.9	107.3	119.5	106.8	104.0	109.3	102.7	101.5
March	106.3	111.0	116.6	104.9	99.1	102.5	107.3	118.6	106.9	104.5	109.3	102.3	101.5
April	107.5	111.5	116.8	104.9	100.0	102.6	108.8	123.1	111.1	104.4	109.3	102.3	100.2
May	108.0	112.6	117.4	104.9	99.3	108.1	107.6	122.7	111.1	104.1	109.3	103.2	103.1
June	108.3	113.1	117.6	104.9	100.4	108.3	107.8	120.8	111.2	104.1	109.3	103.2	103.3
July	108.5	114.2	117.6	104.9	99.8	108.7	107.4	121.6	111.2	104.1	109.3	105.8	102.6
August	108.4	114.3	117.8	105.2	99.0	108.7	106.8	122.3	111.9	104.5	109.3	105.8	102.8