



# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



**THE STATISTICAL OFFICE  
CENTRAL PLANNING DIVISION  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE & PLANNING  
ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

*Tel: 784 457 2921, 456 1111 Ext 592/377,*

*Fax: 784 456 2430,*

*Email: [svg.stats@mail.gov.vc](mailto:svg.stats@mail.gov.vc)*

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

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**February 2014**

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## **FEBRUARY 2014**

The Consumer Price Index recorded a decrease of 0.5 percent for the month of February 2014. The “All Items” index was registered as 107.2 for the month of February 2014 in comparison to 107.7 for the month of January 2014. The “point-to-point” inflation rate was recorded as negative 0.2 percent.

Six (6) groups recorded decreases during the month: “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (1.2 percent), “Health” (0.5 percent), “Transport” (0.4 percent), “Food and Non-alcoholic Beverages” (0.3 percent), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.1 percent) and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.1 percent). Six (6) groups remained unchanged: “Clothing and Footwear”, “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance”, “Communication”, “Recreation and Culture”, “Education” and “Restaurant and Hotels”.

The 1.2 percent decline in the group index for “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” is due mainly to a reduction in the price of electricity of 6.9 percent. This reduction is attributed to a lower fuel surcharge rate of 48.33 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of February 2014 compared to 55.56 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of January 2014.

The “Health” index decreased by 0.5 percent due mainly to a 40.5 percent reduction in the price for medication related to the treatment of cancer.

“Transport” declined by 0.4 percent as a result of lower cost of passenger airfare from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to London (24.1 percent) and from St. Vincent and the Grenadines to Trinidad and Tobago (20.0 percent).

The group index for “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” decreased by 0.3 percent due to lower prices for several items, namely: christophene (15.8 percent), tomatoes (12.0 percent), pumpkin (10.8 percent), mustard (10.4 percent), green pigeon peas (10.1 percent), cornmeal (9.3 percent), yams (5.9 percent), black-eye peas (5.8 percent) and tannias (4.6 percent).

The group “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Narcotics” recorded a decline of 0.1 percent due mainly to a 2.3 percent decrease in the price of ginger wine.

The reduction of 0.1 percent in the group “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” is due mainly to a 17.1 percent decline in the price of nail polish.

**TABLE 1**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**

ITEM	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		EC\$			
		FEBRUARY 2014	JANUARY 2014		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Sardines in tomato sauce	155g tin	2.81	2.64	0.17	6.44
Skimmed milk powder	Lb	9.61	9.07	0.54	5.95
Currants	Lb	13.93	12.59	1.34	10.64
Cabbage	Lb	4.35	4.12	0.23	5.58
Dasheen	Lb	1.79	1.72	0.07	4.07
Cucumber	Lb	3.64	3.32	0.32	9.64
Garlic	500g	4.32	4.07	0.25	6.14
Water	1.5 litres	4.75	4.05	0.70	17.28
Vodka	750ml bottle	32.12	30.63	1.49	4.86
Men's long sleeve shirt	Each	39.95	29.95	10.00	33.39
Airfare from St. Vincent to St Lucia	1-way	380.75	329.72	51.03	15.48
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Cornmeal	Lb	2.35	2.59	-0.24	-9.27
Christophene	Lb	2.77	3.29	-0.52	-15.81
Pumpkin	Lb	2.22	2.49	-0.27	-10.84
Green pigeon peas	Lb	8.45	9.40	-0.95	-10.11
Tannias	Lb	2.94	3.08	-0.14	-4.55
Yams	Lb	3.03	3.22	-0.19	-5.90
Tomatoes	Lb	4.95	5.62	-0.67	-11.92
Black-Eyed peas	Lb	4.36	4.63	-0.27	-5.83
Mustard	16oz bottle	5.50	6.14	-0.64	-10.42
Ginger wine	750ml bottle	17.62	18.03	-0.41	-2.27
Tiles	Each	3.00	3.05	-0.05	-1.64
Electricity consumption	140KWh	137.66	147.78	-10.12	-6.85
Cancer drugs	1 month's supply	33.00	55.50	-22.50	-40.54
Passenger airfare from St. Vincent to Trinidad	1-way	376.92	470.48	-93.56	-19.89
Passenger airfare from St. Vincent to London	1 month	3666.00	4832.40	-1166.40	-24.14
Nail polish	Each	4.95	5.97	-1.02	-17.09

**TABLE 2**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**FEBRUARY 2014 COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 2013**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		FEBRUARY 2014	FEBRUARY 2013		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.19	6.17	0.02	0.32
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.93	3.06	-0.13	-4.25
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.70	1.66	0.04	2.41
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.88	4.89	-0.01	-0.20
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.43	3.08	0.35	11.36
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Robins)	Lb.	5.00	5.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken Franks	340g Pk	5.41	5.28	0.13	2.46
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340g	7.75	7.79	-0.04	-0.51
Codfish	Lb.	14.15	14.31	-0.16	-1.12
Cornflakes	12oz	12.27	11.76	0.51	4.34
Pasta - Elbows	340g	4.15	4.21	-0.06	-1.43
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	3.23	3.22	0.01	0.31
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	3.31	3.57	-0.26	-7.28
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	1.99	1.99	0.00	0.00
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.25	4.25	0.00	0.00
Eggs	Doz	8.61	8.65	-0.04	-0.46
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	7.49	7.13	0.36	5.05
Brown Sugar	Lb.	1.54	1.54	0.00	0.00
Sugar - White ( loose)	Lb.	1.91	2.16	-0.25	-11.57
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.41	1.43	-0.02	-1.40
Flour - Packaged ( white)	2kg	6.74	6.75	-0.01	-0.15
Flour - Packaged ( wholewheat)	2kg	7.39	7.39	0.00	0.00
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.78	1.78	0.00	0.00
Rice - Package	2kg	9.20	9.20	0.00	0.00
Bananas	Lb.	1.33	1.14	0.19	16.67
Breadfruit	Lb.	2.65	2.41	0.24	9.96
Eddoes	Lb.	1.66	2.38	-0.72	-30.25
Dasheens	Lb.	1.79	1.99	-0.20	-10.05
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	1.80	2.05	-0.25	-12.20
Oranges	Each	0.80	0.83	-0.03	-3.61
Tomatoes	Lb.	4.95	3.96	0.99	25.00
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	7.80	8.05	-0.25	-3.11
Vegetable Oil	1 Litre	10.54	10.90	-0.36	-3.30
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	10.41	9.82	0.59	6.01
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail ( not cold)	280ml Bottle	2.24	2.19	0.05	2.28
Vitamalt	310ml Bottle	5.61	5.73	-0.12	-2.09

**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**FEBRUARY 2014 COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 2013**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		EC\$			
		FEBRUARY 2014	FEBRUARY 2013		
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO &amp; NARCOTICS</b>					
Rum - Local (white)	750ml bottle	29.02	28.53	0.49	1.72
Beer - Local	280ml bottle	4.51	4.52	-0.01	-0.22
Cigarettes - Local	Pkt. (10)	3.47	3.47	0.00	0.00
Gonsalves Black Wine	26oz bottle	18.08	17.52	0.56	3.20
<b>CLOTHING &amp; FOOTWEAR</b>					
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	34.07	34.28	-0.21	-0.61
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	79.95	79.95	0.00	0.00
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	110.00	100.00	10.00	10.00
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit ( polyester) large	Each	100.55	100.00	0.55	0.55
Women's Blouse ( cotton/Spandex)	Each	24.65	24.51	0.14	0.57
<b>HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY GAS AND OTHER FUELS</b>					
Rent :					
Unfurnished house -2 Bedroom	1Month	546.43	546.43	0.00	0.00
Unfurnished house -3 Bedroom	1Month	612.50	612.50	0.00	0.00
Furnished Apartment- 2 Bedroom	1Month	791.67	791.67	0.00	0.00
Cement - Portland ( grey)	94 Lbs	24.75	24.62	0.13	0.53
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	1 Length	86.39	86.38	0.01	0.01
Oil Paint	1 Gal.	110.00	110.00	0.00	0.00
Lumber -Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	1 Length	67.10	69.69	-2.59	-3.72
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gals.	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.00
Kerosene	1 Gal.	13.93	13.38	0.55	4.11
Charcoal	1 Sack	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
Cooking Gas	20Lb. Cylinder	44.56	44.56	0.00	0.00
Electricity consumption charge	140 KWH	137.66	140.18	-2.52	-1.80
<b>FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE</b>					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1,162.50	1,162.50	0.00	0.00
Sheets -double - coloured/cotton	Each	88.80	88.80	0.00	0.00
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	52.76	52.76	0.00	0.00
Laundry soap	Each	1.10	1.14	-0.04	-3.51
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	5.50	5.26	0.24	4.56

**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**FEBRUARY 2014 COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 2013**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		EC\$			
		FEBRUARY 2014	FEBRUARY 2013		
<b>HEALTH</b>					
Doctor's Fee - Gynaecologist	1 Visit	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
Eye Care	1 Test	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Hospitalisation (Private Ward)	1 Day	75.00	75.00	0.00	0.00
Drug for Hypertension	1 Mth supply	3.50	3.50	0.00	0.00
Drug for Diabetes	1 Mth supply	14.10	14.18	-0.08	-0.56
Cough, cold preparation	125ml.	15.52	15.49	0.03	0.19
Dental Care	1 Visit	114.17	112.50	1.67	1.48
Chest X- ray	1 Test	110.00	110.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TRANSPORT</b>					
Petrol - Unleaded	1 Gal.	13.95	15.06	-1.11	-7.37
Vehicle License (car) - ≤ 2000 cc	1 Year	470.00	470.00	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
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>					
Telephone service - rental of line- domestic	1 Month	23.46	23.46	0.00	0.00
Telephone - Consumption Charge	226 Units	18.08	18.08	0.00	0.00
Internet charge	1 Month	101.70	101.70	0.00	0.00
Fixed Line domestic rate- peak	1 Minute	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00
Mobile to mobile- domestic	1 Minute	0.73	0.81	-0.08	-9.88
<b>RECREATION AND CULTURE</b>					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	1,999.00	1,999.03	-0.03	0.00
Cable TV Basic Charge	1 Month	74.75	74.75	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer	Each	3,499.00	4,640.55	-1141.55	-24.60
Desktop Computer	Each	1,891.32	1,899.03	-7.71	-0.41
Car Remote Control	Each	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00
Dog Food (Canned)	374g Tin	3.21	3.83	-0.62	-16.19
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	300.00	250.00	50.00	20.00



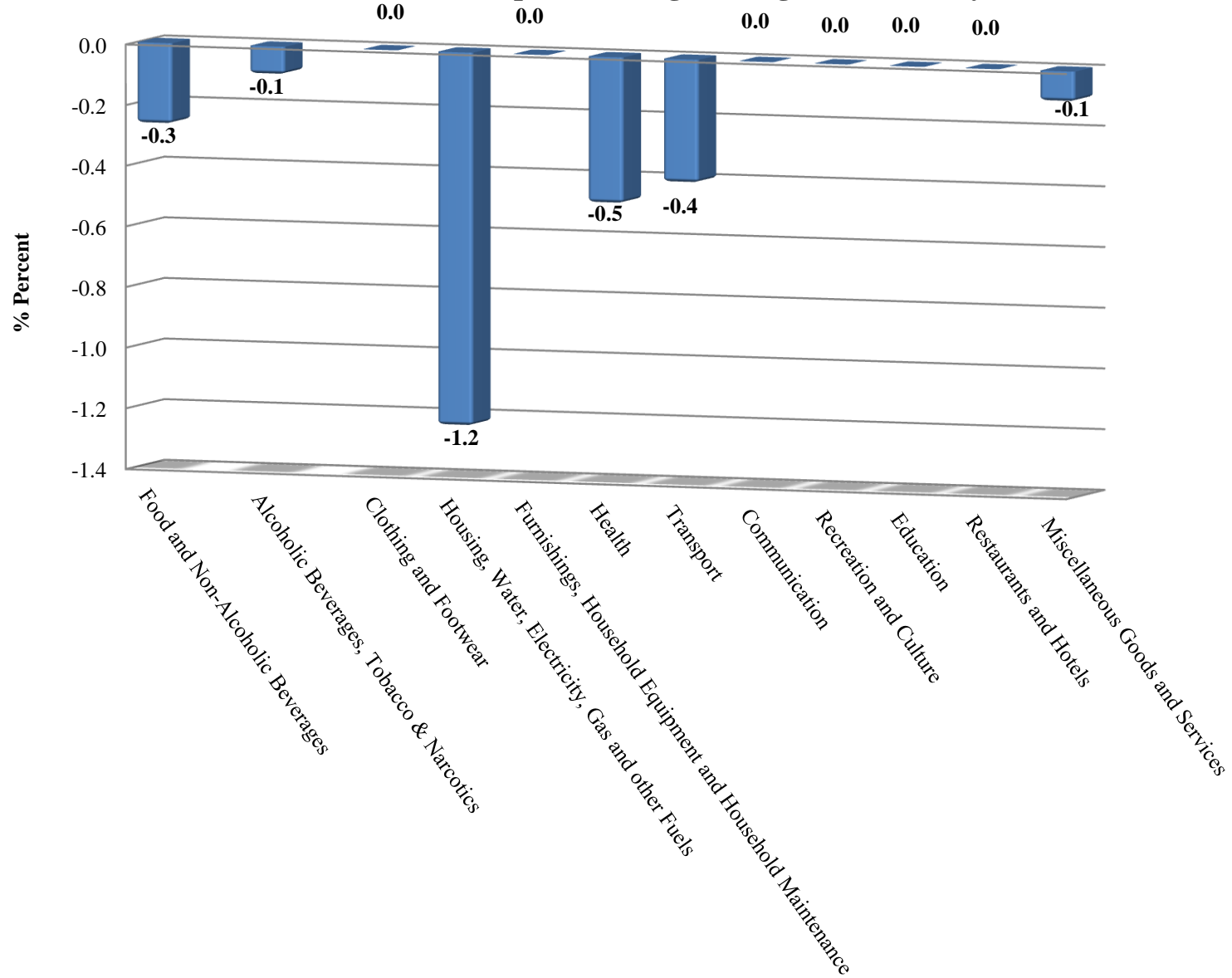
**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**FEBRUARY 2014 COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 2013**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		FEBRUARY 2014	FEBRUARY 2013		
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Pre-Primary - Private	1 Month	205.00	205.00	0.00	0.00
Primary School Fee - Private	1 Term	650.00	650.00	0.00	0.00
Secondary School Fee - Private	1 Term	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
Newspaper - Local	Each	1.33	1.33	0.00	0.00
Exercise Book - Primary - 24 leaves	Each	0.85	0.85	0.00	0.00
Lead Pencils	Each	0.92	0.92	0.00	0.00
Mathematics Textbook - From 4	Each	74.60	69.87	4.73	6.77
Tuition for local evening classes	1 Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
<b>RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS</b>					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	13.86	14.28	-0.42	-2.94
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	15.10	15.87	-0.77	-4.85
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	16.85	15.45	1.40	9.06
<b>MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES</b>					
Toilet Soap	125g	3.46	3.39	0.07	2.06
Toothpaste	130g tube	9.03	8.98	0.05	0.56
Men's Haircut	1 Visit	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00
Women's Hairdressing ( Relaxer)	1 Visit	64.81	64.81	0.00	0.00
Disposable Diapers medium	10 per Pk.	12.85	12.94	-0.09	-0.70
Health Insurance - group (family)	≥3 Persons	278.70	278.70	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**

	GROUP	WEIGHT	JANUARY 2014	FEBRUARY 2014	FEBRUARY 2013	PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS:	
						MONTH JANUARY	YEAR FEBRUARY
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	113.0	112.7	110.4	-0.3	2.1
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	109.2	109.1	106.3	-0.1	2.6
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	105.5	105.5	105.0	0.0	0.5
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	105.7	104.4	104.8	-1.2	-0.4
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	101.1	101.1	100.3	0.0	0.8
06.	Health	1.79	103.9	103.4	101.4	-0.5	2.0
07.	Transport	11.84	123.3	122.8	123.1	-0.4	-0.2
08.	Communication	9.41	96.5	96.5	104.0	0.0	-7.2
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	102.9	102.9	102.7	0.0	0.2
10.	Education	1.32	109.3	109.3	109.6	0.0	-0.3
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	103.0	103.0	103.0	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	100.8	100.7	100.4	-0.1	0.3
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	107.7	107.2	107.4	-0.5	-0.2

### COICOP Groups Percentage Change for February 2014



**TABLE 4**  
**THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAIN GROUPS**  
**JANUARY 2010 = 100**  
**CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE**

	GROUP	WEIGHT	JANUARY 2014	FEBRUARY 2014	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	Contribution to Change %
						JANUARY 2014	FEBRUARY 2014		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	113.0	112.7	-0.3	2,475.83	2,469.26	-6.6	13.1
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	109.2	109.1	-0.1	422.60	422.22	-0.4	0.8
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	105.5	105.5	0.0	339.71	339.71	0.0	0.0
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	105.7	104.4	-1.2	3,177.34	3,138.26	-39.1	78.2
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	101.1	101.1	0.0	666.25	666.25	0.0	0.0
6.	Health	1.79	103.9	103.4	-0.5	185.98	185.09	-0.9	1.8
7.	Transport	11.84	123.3	122.8	-0.4	1,459.87	1,453.95	-5.9	11.8
8.	Communication	9.41	96.5	96.5	0.0	908.07	908.07	0.0	0.0
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	102.9	102.9	0.0	392.05	392.05	0.0	0.0
10.	Education	1.32	109.3	109.3	0.0	144.28	144.28	0.0	0.0
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	103.0	103.0	0.0	192.61	192.61	0.0	0.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	100.8	100.7	-0.1	434.45	434.02	-0.4	0.9
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>107.7</b>	<b>107.2</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>10,770.00</b>	<b>10,720.00</b>	<b>-50.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**TABLE 5**  
**MONTHLY INDEX - 2014**  
**JANUARY 2010 = 100**

GROUP	ALL ITEMS	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco & Narcotics	Clothing & Footwear	Housing Water Electricity Gas and Fuels	Furnishings Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	Health	Transport	Communi-cation	Recreation and Culture	Education	Restaurants and 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	107.7	113.0	109.2	105.5	105.7	101.1	103.9	123.3	96.5	102.9	109.3	103.0	100.8
February	107.2	112.7	109.1	105.5	104.4	101.1	103.4	122.8	96.5	102.9	109.3	103.0	1007.0