



# 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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**MAY 2011**

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## **MAY 2011**

The Consumer Price Index registered a 0.1 percent increase during the month of May 2011. The “All Items” index stood at 102.6 compared with 102.5 for April 2011. The “point-to-point” inflation rate was recorded as 2.0 percent.

Four (4) groups recorded increases during the month: “Food & Non Alcoholic Beverages” (0.9 percent), “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.4 percent) , “Restaurants & Hotels” (0.5 percent), “Clothing & Footwear” (0.2 percent).

Three (3) groups recorded decreases during the month: “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.5 percent), “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” (0.1 percent), “Transport” (0.1 percent). Five (5) groups remained unchanged: “Health”, “Communication”, “Education” “Recreation & Culture” and “Miscellaneous Goods & Services”.

The group index “Food & Non Alcoholic Beverages” increased by 0.9 percent due increases of several items such as fresh fish (deep sea) (28.6 percent), tomatoes (11.8 percent), loose flour (5.9 percent), loose white sugar (5.2 percent), ripe bananas (3.9 percent), salted pig tail (3.6 percent), cocktail soda (3.2 percent) and pasta elbows (2.4 percent). The group index “Restaurants & Hotels” showed a 0.5 percent increase as a result of a 1.6 percent rise in the cost school meal.

The group index “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” increased by 0.4 percent due to a 2.8 percent increase in white rum. The 0.2 percent increase in the group index “Clothing & Footwear” was attributed to a 16.7 percent increase in the cost of a cotton short skirt.

The group index “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other fuels” declined by 0.5 percent due to a lower fuel surcharge rate for the month of May 2011, which stood at 48.2 cents per kilowatt hour compared with 51.4 cents per kilowatt hour for the month of April. This resulted in a 3.1 percent reduction in the cost of electricity.

The index for the group “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance” reflected a 0.1 percent decrease due a (7.7 percent) decline in the price of washing powder. The decrease in the group index “Transport” of 0.1 percent was due to an 11.5 percent decline in international airfare from St.Vincent to Trinidad and a 15.2 percent decline in airfare from St.Vincent to Canada.

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

ITEM	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		MAY	APRIL		
		2011	2011		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Flour-loose	Lb	1.25	1.18	0.07	5.93
Cornflakes	12oz Box	11.91	11.80	0.11	0.93
Pasta-Elbows	340g Pk	3.84	3.75	0.09	2.40
Pig-tail salted	Lb	6.57	6.34	0.23	3.63
Chicken-Wings	Lb	4.69	4.59	0.10	2.18
Chicken-Leg quarters	Lb	2.78	2.70	0.08	2.96
Fish-Fresh (Deep sea)	Lb	9.00	7.00	2.00	28.57
Cooking Margarine	445g tub	7.15	7.03	0.12	1.71
Bananas-Ripe	Lb	1.32	1.27	0.05	3.94
Tomatoes	Lb	3.41	3.05	0.36	11.80
English (Irish) potatoes	Lb	2.65	2.58	0.07	2.71
Sugar-white (loose)	Lb	2.02	1.92	0.10	5.21
Sugar -brown (loose)	Lb	1.31	1.29	0.02	1.55
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail ( not cold)	280ml Bottle	2.22	2.15	0.07	3.26
Rum-White	750ml Bottle	17.91	17.42	0.49	2.81
Short skirt - (cotton)	Each	34.95	29.95	5.00	16.69
School meal -pizza	Each	3.05	3.00	0.05	1.67
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Electricity consumption charge	140KWH	137.47	141.95	-4.48	-3.16
Airfare St.Vincent to Trinidad	One way	326.03	368.55	-42.52	-11.54
Airfare St.Vincent to Canada	1 month	4233.60	4992.20	-758.60	-15.20
Washing Powder	400g pk	4.54	4.92	-0.38	-7.72
Bleach	96oz Bottle	9.77	9.79	-0.02	-0.20
Air Freshener	9oz Bottle	6.64	6.63	0.01	0.15

**TABLE 2**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**MAY 2011 COMPARED WITH MAY 2010**

TABLE 2

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		MAY 2011	MAY 2010		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.50	5.99	0.51	8.51
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.78	2.52	0.26	10.32
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.57	1.53	0.04	2.61
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.69	4.16	0.53	12.74
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.54	3.26	0.28	8.59
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	8.00	1.00	12.50
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	2.72	3.54	-0.82	-23.16
Fish - Fresh (Robins)	Lb.	3.50	3.50	0.00	0.00
Chicken Franks	340 g Pk	5.06	4.95	0.11	2.22
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	7.22	7.36	-0.14	-1.90
Codfish	Lb.	12.51	12.50	0.01	0.08
Cornflakes	12 oz	11.91	11.85	0.06	0.51
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	3.84	3.67	0.17	4.63
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	2.76	2.85	-0.09	-3.16
Milk - Condensed	397g Tin	3.25	3.25	0.00	0.00
Bread- Small Loaf, white	5 Pk	1.84	1.84	0.00	0.00
Bread - Large Sliced Pan Loaf (white)	Each	4.10	4.10	0.00	0.00
Eggs	Doz	8.70	7.94	0.76	9.57
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	6.76	6.93	-0.17	-2.45
Brown Sugar	Lb.	1.31	1.25	0.06	4.80
Sugar - White ( loose)	Lb.	2.02	1.93	0.09	4.66
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.25	1.18	0.07	5.93
Flour - Packaged ( white)	2 kg	6.75	6.75	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged ( wholewheat)	2 kg	7.13	7.13	0.00	0.00
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.79	1.79	0.00	0.00
Rice - Package	2 kg	9.23	9.23	0.00	0.00
Bananas	Lb.	1.32	1.04	0.28	26.92
Breadfruit	Lb.	1.99	1.43	0.56	39.16
Eddoes	Lb.	2.32	2.03	0.29	14.29
Dasheens	Lb.	2.15	1.88	0.27	14.36
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.22	2.23	-0.01	-0.45
Oranges	Each	0.87	0.74	0.13	17.57
Tomatoes	Lb.	3.41	6.08	-2.67	-43.91
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	7.15	6.89	0.26	3.77
Vegetable Oil	1 Litre	9.75	9.34	0.41	4.39
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk	9.00	9.18	-0.18	-1.96
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail ( not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.22	2.01	0.21	10.45
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.11	5.07	0.04	0.79

**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**MAY 2011 COMPARED WITH MAY 2010**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		MAY 2011	MAY 2010		
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO &amp; NARCOTICS</b>					
Rum - Local (white)	750 ml Bot.	26.88	27.23	-0.35	-1.29
Beer - Local	280ml Bottle	4.09	4.11	-0.02	-0.49
Cigarettes - Local	Pkt. (10)	2.73	2.34	0.39	16.67
Gonsalves Black Wine	26 oz Bottle	16.26	16.25	0.01	0.06
<b>CLOTHING &amp; FOOTWEAR</b>					
Textile material - Terelyne	Yd.	47.95	51.64	-3.69	-7.15
Textile material - Linen	Yd.	16.95	12.95	4.00	30.89
Men's Shirts - Long Sleeve	Each	64.95	64.95	0.00	0.00
Men's Jeans ( long) - size 30	Each	35.00	45.00	-10.00	-22.22
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	69.95	69.95	0.00	0.00
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	89.95	79.95	10.00	12.51
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit ( polyester) large	Each	89.95	89.95	0.00	0.00
Women's Blouse ( cotton/Spandex)	Each	20.00	26.95	-6.95	-25.79
<b>HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY GAS AND OTHER FUELS</b>					
Rent :	1Month				
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	21.74	21.98	-0.24	-1.09
Galvanise Sheets 10 ft.	1 Length	80.56	78.37	2.19	2.79
Oil Paint	1 Gal.	97.00	94.50	2.50	2.65
Lumber -Dressed Treated Yellow Pine (1x12x12)	1 Length	67.75	67.75	0.00	0.00
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gals.	32.50	32.50	0.00	0.00
Kerosene	1 Gal.	10.40	9.22	1.18	12.80
Charcoal	1 Sack	40.00	40.00	0.00	0.00
Cooking Gas	20 Lb. Cyl.	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.00
Electricity consumption charge	140 KWH	137.47	122.79	14.68	11.96
<b>FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE</b>					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1,150.00	1,150.00	0.00	0.00
Sheets -double - coloured/cotton	Each	88.80	89.95	-1.15	-1.28
Frying Pan - 12" - non-stick	Each	49.95	49.95	0.00	0.00
Laundry soap	Each	1.24	1.21	0.03	2.48
Electrical Bulb - 60W	Each	4.47	4.47	0.00	0.00

**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**MAY 2011 COMPARED WITH MAY 2010**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		MAY 2011	MAY 2010		
<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	3.85	-0.35	-9.09
Drug for Diabetes	1 Mth supply	14.18	14.60	-0.42	-2.88
Cough, cold preparation	125 ml.	15.69	16.41	-0.72	-4.39
Dental Care	1 Visit	99.17	98.33	0.84	0.85
Chest X- ray	1 Test	100.00	90.00	10.00	11.11
<b>TRANSPORT</b>					
Petrol - Unleaded	1 Gal.	13.60	11.81	1.79	15.16
Vehicle License (car) - not exd. 2000 lbs	1 Year	470.00	410.00	60.00	14.63
Bus Fare - Mesopotamia	One Way	2.50	2.50	0.00	0.00
Boat Fare - Bequia	One Way	20.00	20.00	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	0.75	0.75	0.00	0.00
<b>RECREATION AND CULTURE</b>					
Television 26 " Flat panel	Each	1,999.00	1,999.00	0.00	0.00
Cable TV Basic Charge	1 Month	74.75	74.75	0.00	0.00
Laptop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	4,178.94	4,399.00	-220.06	-5.00
Desktop Computer - 14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	1,899.00	1,999.00	-100.00	-5.00
Car Remote Control	Each	308.45	395.00	-86.55	-21.91
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g Tin	2.92	3.00	-0.08	-2.67
Dance Admission to Night Club	Per Person	20.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
Carnival costume and Band Fees (Adult)	Each	300.00	275.00	25.00	9.09



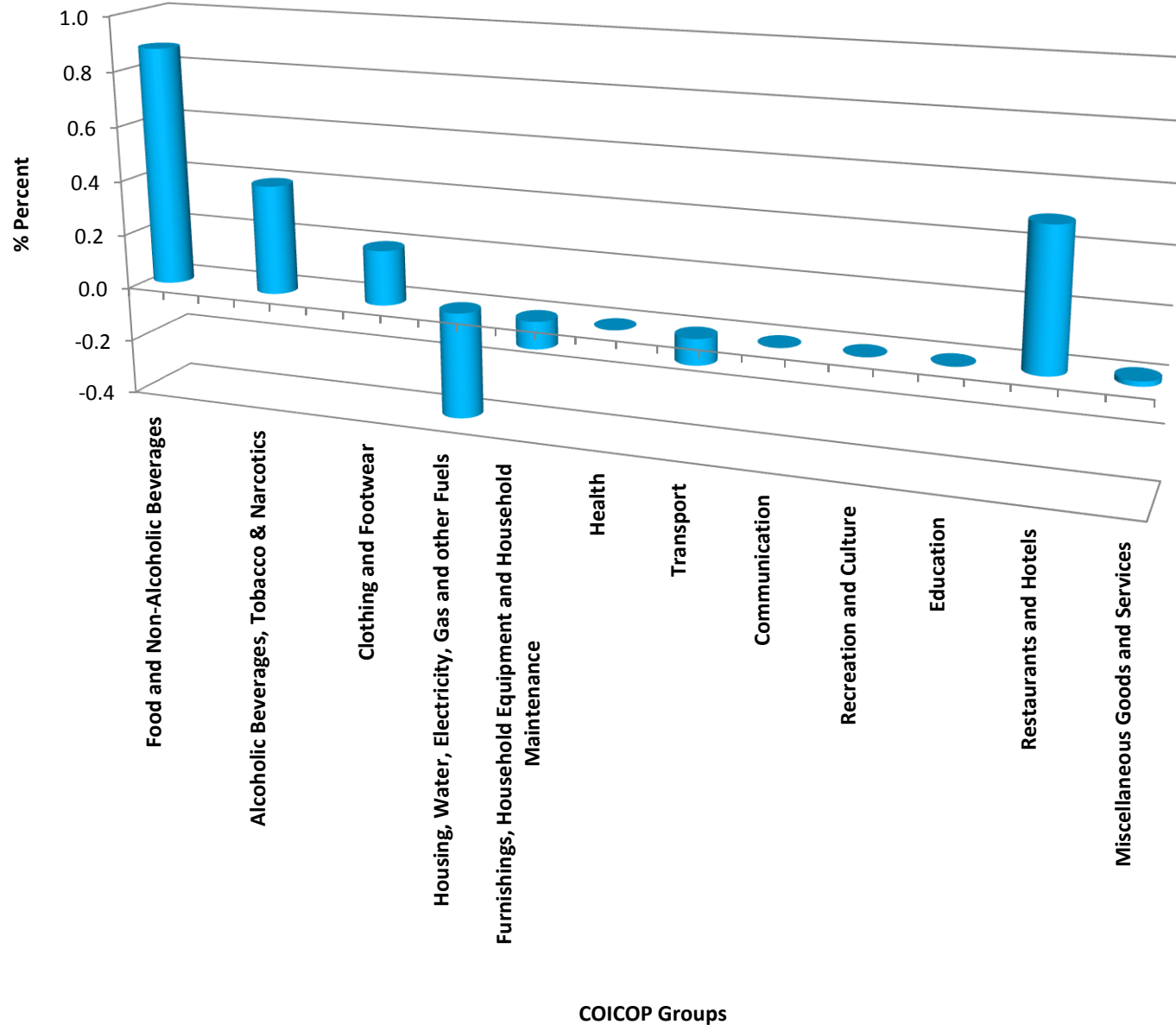
**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**MAY 2011 COMPARED WITH MAY 2010**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		MAY 2011	MAY 2010		
<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	125.00	125.00	0.00	0.00
Newspaper - Local	Each	1.33	1.00	0.33	33.00
Exercise Book - Primary - 24 leaves	Each	0.50	1.00	-0.50	-50.00
Lead Pencils	Each	0.42	0.50	-0.08	-16.00
Mathematics Textbook - From 4	Each	71.33	73.53	-2.20	-2.99
Tuition for local evening classes	1 Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
<b>RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS</b>					
Chicken Lunch - regular	Each	13.39	12.23	1.16	9.48
Fish Lunch - regular	Each	15.32	15.32	0.00	0.00
Fast Food - 2 Pc Chicken and Fries	Each	15.45	15.45	0.00	0.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES</b>					
Toilet Soap	Each	3.30	3.12	0.18	5.77
Toothpaste	130g tube	9.27	9.19	0.08	0.87
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.	12.70	12.71	-0.01	-0.08
Health Insurance - group (family)	≥3 Ppersons	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	APRIL 2011	MAY 2011	MAY 2010	PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS:	
						MONTH APRIL	YEAR MAY
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	103.2	104.1	102.1	0.9	2.0
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	100.3	100.7	99.9	0.4	0.8
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	100.1	100.3	100.1	0.2	0.2
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.9	102.5	100.2	-0.4	2.3
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	99.9	99.8	100.0	-0.1	-0.2
06.	Health	1.79	99.1	99.1	99.9	0.0	-0.8
07.	Transport	11.84	106.3	106.2	100.5	-0.1	5.7
08.	Communication	9.41	102.0	102.0	101.2	0.0	0.8
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	100.6	100.6	100.0	0.0	0.6
10.	Education	1.32	103.9	103.9	100.0	0.0	3.9
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	100.6	101.1	100.0	0.5	1.1
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	99.8	99.8	99.7	0.0	0.1
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	102.5	102.6	100.6	<b>0.1</b>	<b>2.0</b>

COICOP Groups Percentage Change for May 2011



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

	GROUP	WEIGHT	APRIL 2011	MAY 2011	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	Contribution to Change %
						APRIL 2011	MAY 2011		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	103.2	104.1	0.9	2,261.11	2,280.83	19.7	197.2
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	100.3	100.7	0.4	388.16	389.71	1.5	15.5
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	100.1	100.3	0.2	322.32	322.97	0.6	6.4
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	102.9	102.5	-0.4	3,093.17	3,081.15	-12.0	-120.2
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	99.9	99.8	-0.1	658.34	657.68	-0.7	-6.6
6.	Health	1.79	99.1	99.1	0.0	177.39	177.39	0.0	0.0
7.	Transport	11.84	106.3	106.2	-0.1	1,258.59	1,257.41	-1.2	-11.8
8.	Communication	9.41	102.0	102.0	0.0	959.82	959.82	0.0	0.0
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	100.6	100.6	0.0	383.29	383.29	0.0	0.0
10.	Education	1.32	103.9	103.9	0.0	137.15	137.15	0.0	0.0
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	100.6	101.1	0.5	188.12	189.06	0.9	9.3
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	99.8	99.8	0.0	430.14	430.14	0.0	0.0
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>102.5</b>	<b>102.6</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>10250.00</b>	<b>10260.00</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**TABLE 5**  
**MONTHLY INDEX - 2011**  
**JANUARY 2010 = 100**

<b>GROUP</b>	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages</b>	<b>Alcoholic Beverages Tobacco &amp; Narcotics</b>	<b>Clothing &amp; Footwear</b>	<b>Housing Water Electricity Gas and Fuels</b>	<b>Furnishings Household Equipment and Household Maintenance</b>	<b>Health</b>	<b>Transport</b>	<b>Communication</b>	<b>Recreation and Culture</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>Restaurants and Hotels</b>	<b>Miscellaneous Goods and Services</b>
<b>WEIGHT</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>21.91</b>	<b>3.87</b>	<b>3.22</b>	<b>30.06</b>	<b>6.59</b>	<b>1.79</b>	<b>11.84</b>	<b>9.41</b>	<b>3.81</b>	<b>1.32</b>	<b>1.87</b>	<b>4.31</b>
<b>MONTH</b>													
January	101.3	103.2	100.3	100.3	100.0	99.6	99.5	103.5	101.5	100.9	103.9	101.7	100.0
February	101.6	103.6	100.2	100.0	100.6	99.8	99.1	103.4	102.0	101.0	103.9	100.7	100.0
March	101.7	103.2	100.2	100.2	100.8	99.7	98.7	105.5	102.0	100.6	103.9	100.6	100.0
April	102.5	103.2	100.3	100.1	102.9	99.9	99.1	106.3	102.0	100.5	103.9	100.6	99.8
May	102.6	104.2	100.8	100.3	102.5	99.8	99.1	106.2	102.0	100.5	103.9	101.1	99.8