



# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

## MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN



**THE STATISTICAL OFFICE  
CENTRAL PLANNING DIVISION  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE & ECONOMIC  
PLANNING**

**ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES**

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## **REVISION OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX JANUARY 2010**

The Consumer Price Index, commonly referred to as the CPI is one of the most important statistic produced by the Statistical Office, Central Planning Division, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MFEP). It is designed to provide information on trends in consumer prices and real cost-of-living of the population. It is an important economic indicator and is used to adjust prices in order to measure real economic growth.

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the change in average prices of a fixed basket of goods and services purchased by consumers in a specified reference period. The CPI measures the rate of inflation or alternatively changes in the cost of living for households. Generally, the CPI “basket” includes those goods and services frequently purchased by consumers and represents an important part of their expenditure.

The CPI definition emphasizes three important points:

1. Between any two periods, some prices may increase, some may decrease and others may be unchanged, but the index will change based on the average movement of all prices.
2. The index measures the purchasing power over time as it relates to a fixed basket of goods and services.
3. The index is essentially a consumer price index and therefore measures changes in the price of goods and services purchased by households. It does not include capital goods or the goods and services typically purchased by enterprises and or government for business purpose.

## **II. WHY A NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX?**

The Statistical Office took a decision to update the CPI in collaboration with the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB). The Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC) provided technical support to the Statistical Office through a sub-regional project. The main aim of this exercise was to introduce updated methods and procedures used for compiling the CPI that are in accordance with international standards and also allow for comparison among the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU) member states.

In an effort to update the old CPI, a Household Budget and Expenditure Survey (HBES) was deemed a necessary requirement. As part of the Country Poverty Assessment (CPA) project funded by the European Development Fund, the HBES, which consisted of a detailed questionnaire on expenditure on goods and services and a diary survey of household's daily expenditure, was conducted over the period November 2007- October 2008.

The HBES was based on an inquiry of the population and its expenditure on various goods and services to derive an updated CPI basket that reflected more recent consumer spending patterns. The findings from this latest survey allowed for the addition of new goods and services that have become significant to households, and the removal of those that are no longer relevant.

The old CPI had its base in a HBES conducted in 1996, which represented a pattern of consumer spending that existed more than ten years ago. Since then, consumer spending patterns have changed, and some of the items in the basket of goods and services have become irrelevant and outdated while new items have emerged as important. It is therefore necessary to update the basket of goods and services periodically to ensure that the index continues to be relevant.

### **III. MAIN FINDINGS OF THE HBES**

From the HBES it was revealed that consumption patterns in St Vincent and the Grenadines have changed significantly. As depicted in Table 2.0, the share of expenditure allocated to Housing, Fuel and Light, experienced the largest increase moving from 12.77 percent in 2001 to 30.06 percent in 2010, reflecting the addition of owner's rent to the basket. In contrast, the share of expenditure allocated to Food has fallen significantly from 53.61 percent in 2001 to 21.91 percent in 2010. The Clothing and Footwear group also experienced a decline from 8.87 percent in 2001 to 3.22 percent in 2010. Similarly, the expenditure share for Communication rose from 2.45 percent in 2001 to 9.41 percent in 2010, reflecting the importance of cellular phones and mobile communication.

#### IV. IMPROVEMENTS TO THE NEW CONSUMER INDEX

Through assistance from CARTAC, a consultant assisted in developing consumption expenditure estimates from the HBES and in deriving the new CPI market basket. Training on the new *CPI Manual (2004)*, and technical guidance on the use of the Price Index Processor System (PIPS) were also provided by CARTAC. PIPS is the new CPI software developed by the IMF's Statistics and Technology and General Services Department.

The introduction of the revised Consumer Price Index has enhanced the key features of the Index:

##### **Box 1: Key Features of the Revised Consumer Price Index**

Improved and expanded samples of outlets reflecting those normally visited by households. This improves the coverage of the index as outlets not previously covered in the CPI have also been included. The CPI is now more representative of St Vincent and the Grenadines.

Having new item structures that include both updated spending patterns and new products (e.g., adding college tuition, cell phones, and computers. This improves the CPI by reflecting current patterns in consumer purchases.

Using the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP), the international standard recommended in the *CPI Manual (2004)*. This replaces regional classification structures that were somewhat different with 11 divisions rather than the 12 as provided in COICOP.

Introduction of owner's equivalent rent to make the CPI conceptually consistent with the System of National Accounts and to include owner-occupied housing in the index for the first time.

### **Box 1Cont'd: Key Features of the Revised Consumer Price Index**

Using the Price Index Processor System (PIPS) introduces major improvements to the methods and procedures currently used in the CPI, namely:

Compilation of indices that uses geometric averaging rather than arithmetic averaging to reduce the bias that results from arithmetic average of prices and arithmetic average of price relatives;

Imputation of missing prices that uses the price change of related products vs. carrying forward the last reported price, which has an inherent bias;

Quality adjustments of prices to reflect pure price changes using techniques documented in the *CPI Manual (2004)*; and

Introducing new goods into the product and item structure using the techniques documented in the *CPI Manual (2004)*.

**Creating greater comparability across the region in terms of classifications, structure, methods, and procedures used in the CPI.**

## **PURPOSE AND USES OF THE CPI**

The CPI is widely used as a general measure of inflation for three reasons. It is easily available on a monthly basis; it is usually not revised and is published frequently. The CPI is monitored by the general public and, therefore, is used for a wide variety of purposes such as the following:

- The CPI is often used by employers and other agencies for the adjustment of wages and salaries and by labour unions in collective bargaining and wage negotiations.
- The CPI is used as a proxy for the general inflation rate, even though it only measures consumer inflation.
- The price data collected for the CPI can be used to compile other indices, such as the price indices used to deflate household consumption expenditures in national accounts estimates, or for measuring differences in the purchasing power of money.
- The CPI is used by some governments or central banks to set inflation targets for purposes of monetary policy.
- The CPI is used to index other payments, such as rent, interest payment and price of bonds.
- Private researchers, students and the public, use the CPI for social and economic studies of the economy, school projects and general information.

Additionally, the CPI has acquired a unique status as one of the key economic statistics in most countries. There are several factors that help to explain this:



- All households have their own personal inflation experience and often compare it to the CPI. The general public is very conscious of changes in the price of consumer goods and services, and the direct impact those changes have on their living standards. Interest in the CPI is not confined only to policy makers.
- Changes in the CPI tend to receive a lot of attention. In fact, the publication can make headline news' at times, as the CPI is a high-profile statistic.
- The CPI is published frequently, usually each month, so that the rate of consumer inflation can be closely monitored. It is also a timely statistic that is released very soon after the end of the period to which it refers.
- The CPI is a statistic with a long history, and people have been familiar with it over time.
- The CPI a relatively reliable price index compared with the price indices for some other flows. Although price changes for certain kinds of consumer goods are difficult to measure because of quality changes, price changes for other kinds of goods and services, such as capital goods and government services, especially public services, tend to be even more difficult to measure.
- The CPI is published regularly. This makes it attractive for many purposes, especially those with financial consequences such as indexation.

Given the importance of the CPI to a multitude of users, the Statistical Office is making every effort to improve the accuracy and relevance of the Index.

## **V. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX PROCESSES**

### **THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CPI**

The CPI market basket was developed from detailed expenditure information provided by families and individuals on what they actually bought. The data used to develop the new CPI was collected from the Household Budget Expenditure Survey which was conducted during the period November 2007 to October 2008.

A sample of approximately 1,100 households which represented 4.4 percent of all households in the sampling from the 2001 Housing and Population census was selected for enumeration. The survey consisted of a two-stage stratified systematic random sampling selection process. At the first stage, Enumeration Districts (EDs) were selected based on a sampling frame constructed from Census Divisions (CDs). The size of each ED as described as Primary Sampling Units (PSUs), included in the frame was measured in units of clusters of households to be interviewed in each enumeration district. In the second stage, one cluster of households was randomly selected from the selected PSU with a probability proportional to size. The end result was that each household had the same probability of being selected in the sample.

During the HBES period, a sample of families from around the country provided information about their spending habits for major consumer goods and services in an interview survey. To collect information on frequently purchased items, such as food and personal care products, families also kept diaries, in which they listed purchases made during a 2-week period.

The Statistical Office has classified all expenditure items into more than 200 categories, according to the United Nation's Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP), the international standard. The categories are arranged into 12 Divisions as shown in Table 1.0.

**Table 1.0****COICOP DIVISION WITH EXAMPLES OF ITEMS IN EACH CATEGORY**

<b>COICOP DIVISION</b>	<b>CATEGORY EXAMPLES</b>
01 FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	Breakfast cereal, milk, coffee, chicken
02 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	Wine, beer, cigarettes
03 CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	Men's shirts and pants, women's dresses and blouses, shoes
04 HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS, AND OTHER FUELS	Rent of primary residence, owners' equivalent rent, Electricity
05 FURNISHINGS AND HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES	Bedroom and living room furniture, detergents, cleaning supplies
06 HEALTH	Prescription drugs and medical supplies, physicians' services, eyeglasses and eye care, hospital services
07 TRANSPORT	New vehicles, airline fares, gasoline, motor vehicle insurance
08 COMMUNICATION	Postage, telephone services, cellular phones and service
09 RECREATION AND CULTURE	Televisions, computers, software and accessories toys, pets and pet products, sports equipment, admissions
10 EDUCATION	Primary, secondary, and college tuition and fees
11 RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	Full service meals at restaurants and cafes, snacks, Lodging
12 MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	Haircuts and other personal services, cosmetics, watches and jewelry, legal and funeral expenses

Also included within these groupings are various government-charged user fees, such as water charges, auto registration fees, and vehicle inspection. In addition, the CPI includes taxes (such as Value Added Tax, VAT) that are directly associated with the prices of specific goods and services. However, the CPI excludes taxes (such as income and Social Security taxes) not directly associated with the purchase of consumer goods and services. The CPI does not include investment items, such as stocks, bonds, real estate, and life insurance. (These items relate to savings and investments and not to consumption expenses.)

### **CPI WEIGHTS**

The weights reflect the spending patterns of households during a previous period. Much depends on how appropriate and timely the weights are. The more current the weights, the more reflective they are of current consumer spending patterns. It is therefore, important to update the weights used in the CPI.

The weights obtained from the sample are extrapolated to represent the entire population by the application of an expansion factor.

Establishing the weights for the items and subsequently the subgroups and major groups, all expenditures were expressed on an annual basis. A base of 1000 was used to allocate the weights. The following table shows the major grouping, annual expenditure and weight allocation in terms of percentages:

**Table 2.0****SUMMARY OF DIVISIONS BY ANNUAL EXPENDITURE AND WEIGHT**

<b>COICOP DIVISIONS</b>	<b>ANNUAL EXPENDITURE (EC\$M)</b>	<b>WEIGHT %</b>
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	238.30	21.91
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	42.05	3.87
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	38.64	3.22
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY,GAS AND OTHER FUELS	327.09	30.06
FURNISHINGS AND HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES	68.79	6.59
HEALTH	19.45	1.79
TRANSPORT	128.86	11.84
COMMUNICATION	102.40	9.41
RECREATION AND CULTURE	41.48	3.81
EDUCATION	14.37	1.32
RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	20.31	1.87
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	46.25	4.31
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,087.98</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Chart 1.0

Structure of the new basket January 2010=100

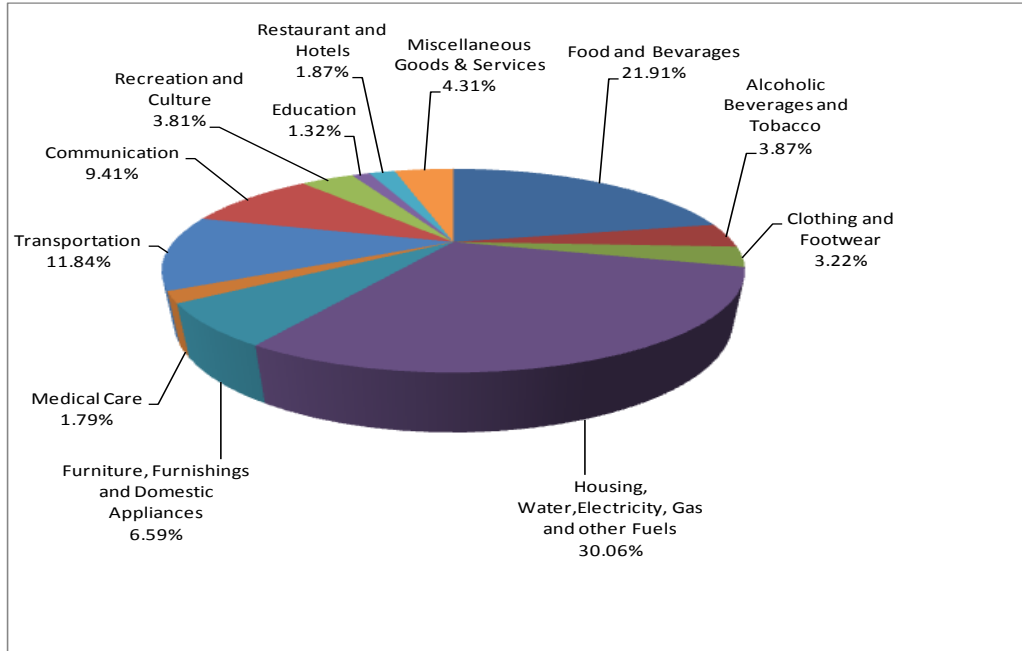
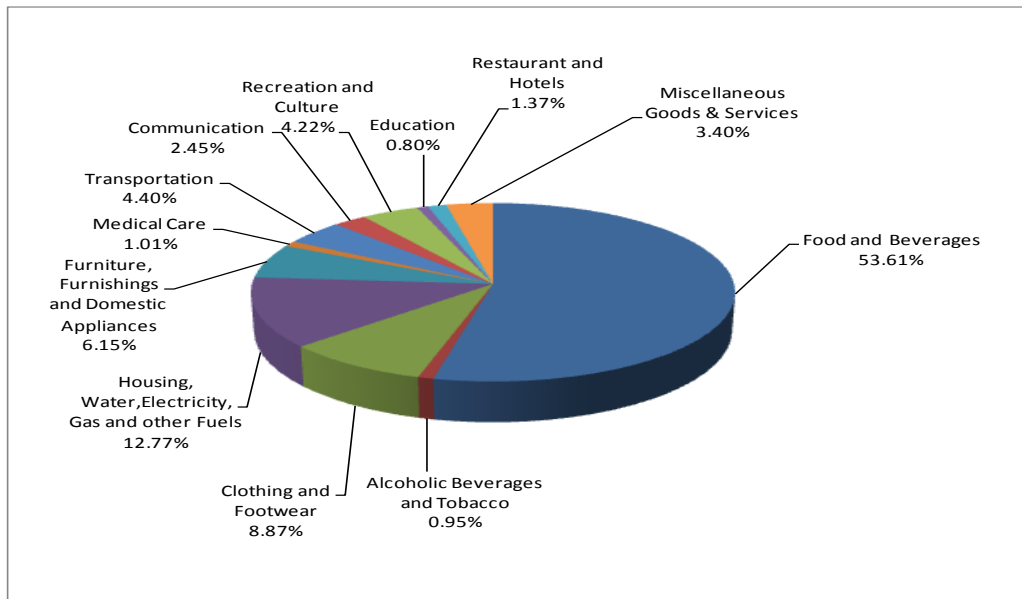


Chart 1.1

Structure of the old basket January 2001=100



## **JANUARY 2011**

The Consumer Price Index registered a 0.4 percent increase during the month of January, 2011. The “All Items” index stood at 101.7 compared with 101.3 for December 2010. The “point-to-point” inflation rate was recorded as 1.7 percent.

Six (6) groups recorded increases during the month: “Transport (2.4 percent), “Communication (0.9 percent), “Restaurants and Hotels” (0.8 percent), “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” (0.5 percent), “Recreation and Culture” (0.4 percent) and “Miscellaneous Goods and Services” (0.3 percent).

Five (5) groups recorded decreases during the month: “Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance”(0.3 percent), “Health” (0.3 percent), “Clothing and Footwear” (0.2 percent), “Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels” (0.1 percent) and “Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics” (0.1 percent). The group “Education” remained unchanged

The index for “Transport” increased by 2.4 percent due mainly to an increase in the prices of: passenger transport by air from St. Vincent to St. Lucia – one way (48.8 percent), painting of vehicle (33.3 percent) and repair of air conditioning system (29.8 percent).

“Communication” increased by 0.9 percent due to an increase of 67.1 percent in the price of a dual band cellular phone.

The group index for “Restaurants and Hotels “ grew by 0.8 percent as a result of an increase in the price of beverages – fruit juice (7.3 percent) and school meals- chicken (4.2 percent).

The 0.5 percent increase in the index for “Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages” is due to an increase in the prices of several items including: garlic (55.5 percent), fish – robin (25 percent), paw-paw (24.4 percent), celery (13.1 percent), chicken – whole legs (11.6 percent), cauliflower (10.4 percent), pig tail –frozen (9.4 percent), breadfruit (7.5 percent), oranges (7.4 percent) and turkey wings (6.4 percent).

The 0.4 percent increase in the index for “Recreation and Culture” is mainly due to an increase in the price of vaccines – dogs (33.3 percent) and cat food (5.4 percent).

“Miscellaneous Goods and Services” increased by 0.3 percent due mainly to an increase in the prices of hair extensions (30.5 percent), gold chain (13.4 percent), body lotion (12.6 percent) and health insurance (4.7 percent).



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

ITEM	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		EC\$			
		JANAUARY 2011	DECEMBER 2010		
<b>INCREASED</b>					
Turkey wings	Lb.	3.68	3.46	0.22	6.36
Oranges	Each	0.73	0.68	0.05	7.35
Breadfruit	Lb.	1.72	1.60	0.12	7.50
Pig tail -frozen	Lb.	4.79	4.38	0.41	9.36
Cauliflower	Lb.	9.27	8.40	0.87	10.36
Chicken - whole legs	Lb.	3.09	2.77	0.32	11.55
Celery	Lb.	9.18	8.12	1.06	13.05
Paw paw	Lb.	1.99	1.60	0.39	24.38
Fish -robin	Lb.	5.00	4.00	1.00	25.00
Garlic	500 g	7.82	5.03	2.79	55.47
Painting of vehicle	1 Job	2000.00	1500.00	500.00	33.33
Repair of air condition system	1 Job	268.18	206.76	61.42	29.71
Airline ticket - SVG to St. Lucia	One Way	337.87	227.12	110.75	48.76
Cellular phone - dual band	Each	249.00	149.00	100.00	67.11
Cat food	3kg Bag	49.24	46.72	2.52	5.39
Vaccines (dogs)	Each	40.00	30.00	10.00	33.33
Beverages -fruit juice (large)	Each	2.94	2.74	0.20	7.30
School meal (chicken)	Each	6.25	6.00	0.25	4.17
Body lotion	437 ml Bot	7.85	6.97	0.88	12.63
Hair extensions	1 Pk.	59.95	45.95	14.00	30.47
Gold chain- 10 carat, 17"	Each	1,143.41	1,008.35	135.06	13.39
Health insurance - single person	Per Month	95.08	90.83	4.25	4.68
<b>DECREASED</b>					
Brandy	750ml. Bot.	32.55	32.60	-0.05	-0.15
Beer (imported)	250 ml. Bot.	5.13	5.23	-0.10	-1.91
Textile material - terelyne 60"	1 Yard	47.95	49.95	-2.00	-4.00
Women's footwear - casual	1 Pair	49.95	55.00	-5.05	-9.18
Electricity - domestic consumption	140KWH	120.79	121.95	-1.16	-0.95
Lumber 1 x12x12	Length	68.75	68.76	-0.01	-0.01
Bed - queen size	Each	488.64	499.00	-10.36	-2.08
Mattress - queen size	Each	1,077.30	1,192.30	-115.00	-9.65
Curtain panels	1 Set	24.98	29.95	-4.97	-16.59
Bulb - 40W	Each	4.00	5.00	-1.00	-20.00
Cough, cold preparation	125ml.	15.82	16.41	-0.59	-3.60
Dental Service - filling	1 visit	105.00	107.50	-2.50	-2.33
Engine coolant	1 Gal	40.25	46.20	-5.95	-12.88

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

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		JANUAURY 2011	JANUAURY 2010		
<b>FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>					
Beef - Fresh	Lb.	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chicken - Whole	Lb.	6.03	6.26	-0.23	-3.67
Chicken - Leg Quarters	Lb.	2.55	2.85	-0.30	-10.53
Chicken - Backs	Lb.	1.53	1.56	-0.03	-1.92
Chicken - Wings	Lb.	4.53	4.44	0.09	2.03
Turkey Wings	Lb.	3.68	3.45	0.23	6.67
Fish - Fresh (Deep Sea)	Lb.	9.00	9.00	0.00	0.00
Fish - Fresh (Jacks)	Lb.	3.00	3.50	-0.50	-14.29
Fish - Fresh (Robins)	Lb.	5.00	3.50	1.50	42.86
Chicken Franks	340 g	5.04	4.94	0.10	2.02
Luncheon Meat (pork)	340 g	7.33	7.23	0.10	1.38
Codfish	Lb.	12.47	11.71	0.76	6.49
Cornflakes	12 oz	11.66	11.50	0.16	1.39
Pasta - Elbows	340 g	3.61	3.52	0.09	2.56
Milk - Evaporated	410g Tin	2.85	2.82	0.03	1.06
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	8.66	8.25	0.41	4.97
Orange Juice	19 oz Tin	6.62	6.66	-0.04	-0.60
Brown Sugar	Lb.	1.29	1.06	0.23	21.70
Sugar - White ( loose)	Lb.	1.80	1.76	0.04	2.27
Flour - Loose	Lb.	1.18	1.18	0.00	0.00
Flour - Packaged ( white)	2 kg	6.76	6.75	0.01	0.15
Flour - Packaged ( wholewheat)	2 kg	7.13	7.17	-0.04	-0.56
Rice - Loose	Lb.	1.79	1.80	-0.01	-0.56
Rice - Package	2 kg	9.23	9.25	-0.02	-0.22
Bananas	Lb.	1.03	1.04	-0.01	-0.96
Breadfruit	Lb.	1.72	1.43	0.29	20.28
Eddoes	Lb.	2.25	1.91	0.34	17.80
Dasheens	Lb.	1.87	1.83	0.04	2.19
Sweet Potatoes	Lb.	2.41	1.96	0.45	22.96
Oranges	Each	0.73	0.64	0.09	14.06
Tomatoes	Lb.	7.15	4.12	3.03	73.54
Cooking Margarine	445g Tub	7.02	6.89	0.13	1.89
Vegetable Oil	1 Litre	9.33	9.33	0.00	0.00
Powdered Chocolate	300g Pk.	9.05	9.06	-0.01	-0.11
Hairoun Fruit Cocktail ( not cold)	280 ml Bottle	2.06	2.05	0.01	0.49
Vitamalt	310 ml Bottle	5.08	5.02	0.06	1.20

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

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		JANUAURY 2011	JANUAURY 2010		
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO &amp; NARCOTICS</b>					
Rum - Local (white)	750 ml Bot.	26.87	27.20	-0.33	-1.21
Beer - Local	Each	3.97	4.08	-0.11	-2.70
Cigarettes - Local	Pkt. (10)	2.73	2.34	0.39	16.67
Gonsalves Black Wine	26 oz Bottle	16.27	16.19		
<b>CLOTHING &amp; FOOTWEAR</b>					
Textile material - Terelyne	Yd.	47.95	51.69	-3.74	-7.24
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)	Each	40.56	45.00	-4.44	-9.87
Men's Shoes -Formal	Pair	70.00	69.95	0.05	0.07
Women's Shoes - Formal	Pair	79.95	79.95	0.00	0.00
Women's 2Pc Skirtsuit ( polyester)	Each	89.95	89.95	0.00	0.00
Women's Blouse ( cotton/Spandex)	Pair	20.00	26.95	-6.95	-25.79
<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	21.74	22.47	-0.73	-3.25
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	68.75	70.54	-1.79	-2.54
Water - Consumption Charge	5000 Gals.	32.50	32.50	0.00	0.00
Kerosene	1 Gal.	10.10	9.22	0.88	9.54
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	120.79	121.71	-0.92	-0.76
<b>FURNISHING, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE</b>					
Bed - Cherry 54"x75"	Each	1150.00	1150.00	0.00	0.00
Sheets -double	Each	88.80	89.95	-1.15	-1.28
Frying Pan - 12"	Each	48.66	49.95	-1.29	-2.58
Laundry soap	Each	1.29	1.21	0.08	6.61
Electrical Light Bulb - 60W	Each	4.47	4.32	0.15	3.47

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

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		JANUAURY 2011	JANUAURY 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	3.74	3.85	-0.11	-2.86
Drug for Diabetes	1 Mth. supply	14.86	14.86	0.00	0.00
Cough, cold preparation	125 ml.	15.82	16.41	-0.59	-3.60
Dental Care	1 Visit	99.17	98.33	0.84	0.85
Chest X- ray	1 Test	100.00	90.00		
<b>TRANSPORT</b>					
Petrol - Unleaded	1 Gal.	12.20	11.15	1.05	9.42
Vehicle License (car)	1 Year	410.00	410.00	0.00	0.00
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	1999.00	1999.00	0.00	0.00
Cable TV Basic Charge	1 Month	74.75	74.75	0.00	0.00
Labtop Computer -13.3 " screen 2 GB	Each	3961.48	4399.00	-437.52	-9.95
Desktop Computer -14" Monitor 3 GB	Each	1800.18	1999.00	-198.82	-9.95
Car Remote Control	Each	395.00	395.00	0.00	0.00
Dog Food (Canned)	374 g	2.92	3.00	-0.08	-2.67
Dance Admission	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

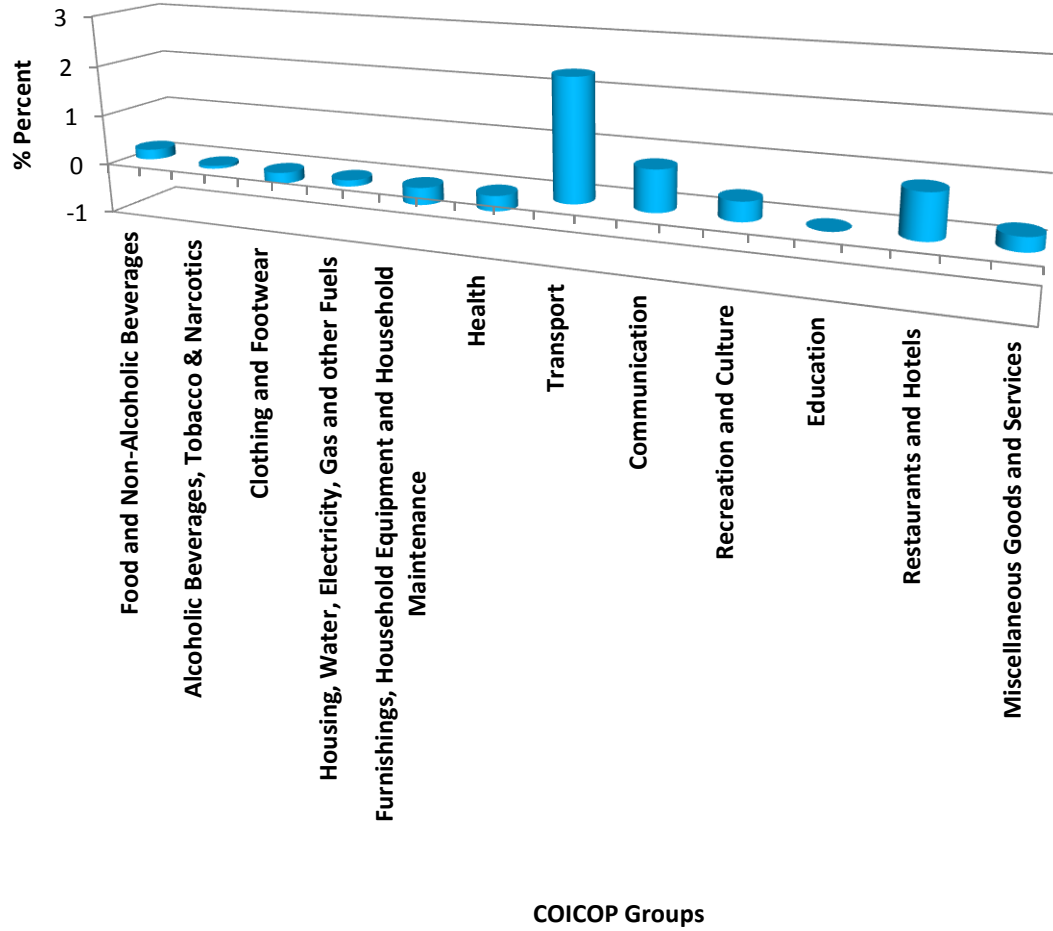
**TABLE 2 Cont'd**  
**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF SELECTED ITEMS**  
**JANAURY 2011 COMPARED WITH JANUARY 2010**

ITEMS	UNIT OF QUANTITY	AVERAGE PRICE EC\$		CHANGE IN PRICE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN PRICE
		JANUAURY 2011	JANUAURY 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	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	73.53	73.53	0.00	0.00
Tuition for local evening classes	1 Subject	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
<b>RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS</b>					
Chicken Lunch - large	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	3.10	0.20	6.45
Toothpaste	130g Tube	9.08	9.19	-0.11	-1.20
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.	12.46	12.86	-0.40	-3.21
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	DECEMBER 2010	JANUARY 2011	JANUARY 2010	PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS:	
						MONTH	YEAR
						DECEMBER	JANUARY
01.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	103.0	103.5	100.0	0.5	3.5
02.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	100.4	100.3	100.0	-0.1	0.3
03.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	100.5	100.3	100.0	-0.2	0.3
04.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	100.1	100.0	100.0	-0.1	0.0
05.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	99.9	99.6	100.0	-0.3	-0.4
06.	Health	1.79	99.8	99.5	100.0	-0.3	-0.5
07.	Transport	11.84	103.0	105.5	100.0	2.4	5.5
08.	Communication	9.41	100.7	101.6	100.0	0.9	1.6
09.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	100.5	100.9	100.0	0.4	0.9
10.	Education	1.32	103.9	103.9	100.0	0.0	3.9
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	101.2	102.0	100.0	0.8	2.0
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	99.8	100.0	100.0	0.3	0.0
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>101.3</b>	<b>101.7</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.7</b>

COICOP Groups Percentage Change for January 2011



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

	GROUP	WEIGHT	DECEMBER 2010	JANUARY 2011	Percentage Change	Cost Weight		Change in Cost Weight	Contribution to Change %
						DECEMBER 2010	JANUARY 2011		
1.	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	21.91	103.3	103.5	0.2	2263.3	2267.7	4.4	11.0
2.	Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco & Narcotics	3.87	100.4	100.3	-0.1	388.5	388.3	-0.2	-0.6
3.	Clothing and Footwear	3.22	100.5	100.3	-0.2	323.7	323.0	-0.7	-1.7
4.	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and other Fuels	30.06	100.1	100.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
5.	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Household Maintenance	6.59	99.9	99.6	-0.3	658.3	656.6	-1.8	-4.4
6.	Health	1.79	99.8	99.5	-0.3	178.6	178.0	-0.5	-1.3
7.	Transport	11.84	103.0	105.5	2.4	1219.5	1249.1	29.6	74.0
8.	Communication	9.41	100.7	101.6	0.9	947.5	956.1	8.6	21.4
9.	Recreation and Culture	3.81	100.5	100.9	0.4	383.0	384.4	1.4	3.6
10.	Education	1.32	103.9	103.9	0.0	137.2	137.2	0.0	0.0
11.	Restaurants and Hotels	1.87	101.2	102.0	0.8	189.2	190.7	1.5	3.7
12.	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	4.31	99.8	100.0	0.3	430.0	431.1	1.1	2.8
	<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>101.3</b>	<b>101.7</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>10130.0</b>	<b>10170.0</b>	<b>40.0</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>													
<b>January</b>	<b>101.7</b>	<b>103.5</b>	<b>100.3</b>	<b>100.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>99.6</b>	<b>99.5</b>	<b>105.5</b>	<b>101.6</b>	<b>100.9</b>	<b>103.9</b>	<b>102.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>