



KINGDOM OF TONGA

Consumer Price Index

Statistical Bulletin

SEPTEMBER 2019



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STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR SEPTEMBER 2019
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(Base Period: September 2018 = 100.0)

Consumer Price Index for September 2019 decreased by 0.1%
With an Annual Inflation Rate of 0.4%.

The Consumer Price Index covers price changes in Tongatapu and Vava'u. The weights were derived from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (2015-2016). Also, the groups use all different grouping of the Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP).

1. The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** for **September 2019** decreased by **0.1** to **100.4** from **100.5** in the previous month. Over the previous two months, the index for all items increased by **0.5%** in **August** and increased by **0.2** in **July 2019**.
2. When comparing the **local and imported** indices for **September 2019** to the previous month. Although some local index increase and decrease but the overall decreased by **0.7%** and import index increased by **0.4%**.
3. The **annual rate of inflation for September 2019** was **0.4%** compares to **-0.1% deflation** in previous month. The **annual inflation** for the same month of previous year, **September 2018**, was **5.5% (Inflation)**.
4. When comparing the **annual change** in the **local and imported indices** for **September 2019**, the local index recorded a decrease by **1.1%** and import index increased by **1.6%**.

Changes in each group compared with the previous month are as follows:

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| A. FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES | -0.2% |
| <i>Food Group</i> recorded a decrease towards the index position of September 2019 . This was mainly due to decrease in prices of some local fruits and vegetables items such as capsicum, tomatoes, early <i>yam</i> , <i>taro leaves</i> , and <i>watermelon</i> . Prices of some meat, fish & poultry items such as lobster, <i>hakula puaka (fresh)</i> , <i>clam</i> , <i>octopus</i> , <i>pork</i> and <i>turkey tails</i> decreased throughout the month. | |
| B. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO AND KAVA | -0.5% |
| Price of items in this group recorded a decrease due to decrease in price of <i>kava tonga</i> compared to the previous month. | |
| C. CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR | 1.6% |
| Price of items in this group recorded an increase towards the index position of September 2019 , due to increase in price of <i>school uniform</i> compared to the previous month. | |
| D. HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY AND GAS | -1.3% |
| Although there was price changes during the month, the overall change remain decrease due to decrease in price of <i>LP Gas</i> compare to the previous month. | |
| E. FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE | 0.3% |
| Price of items in this group recorded an increase due to increase in price of some items compared to the previous month. | |
| F. HEALTH | 0.0% |
| Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month. | |
| G. TRANSPORT | 1.0% |
| Price of items in this group recorded an increase towards the index position of September 2019 due to increase in price of Petrol and diesel compared to the previous month. | |

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| H. COMMUNICATION | 0.0% |
| Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month. | |
| I. RECREATION AND CULTURE | 0.0% |
| Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month. | |
| J. EDUCATION | 0.0% |
| Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month. | |
| K. RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS | 0.0% |
| Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month. | |
| L. MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES | 0.0% |
| Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month. | |



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Dr. Viliami K. Fifita

Government Statistician

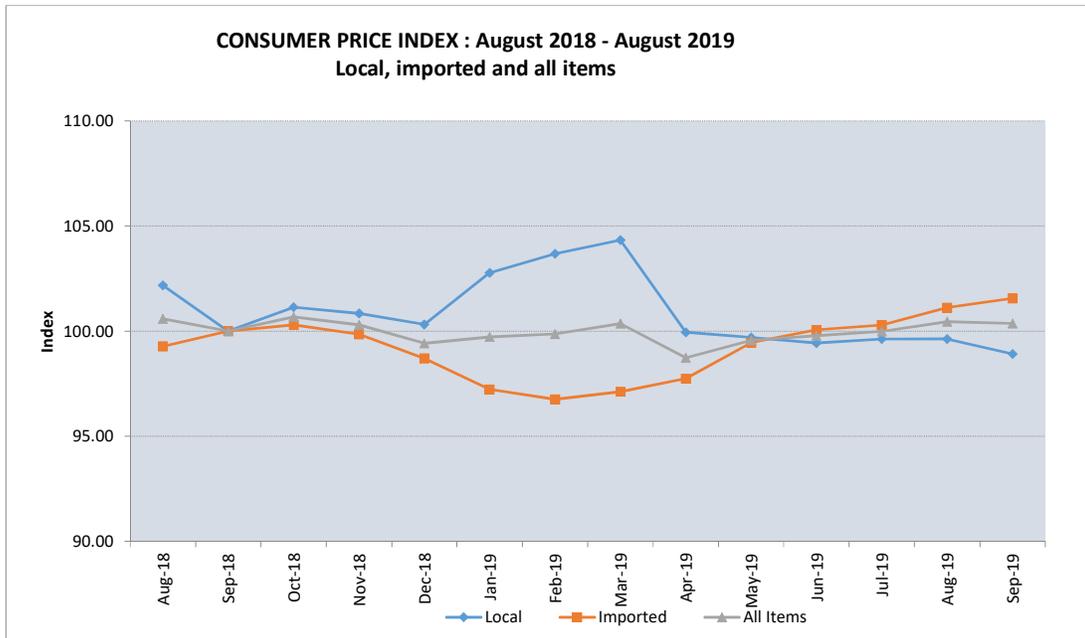


Fig 1: Graphical representation of Consumer Price Index for Total, Local and Imported Components

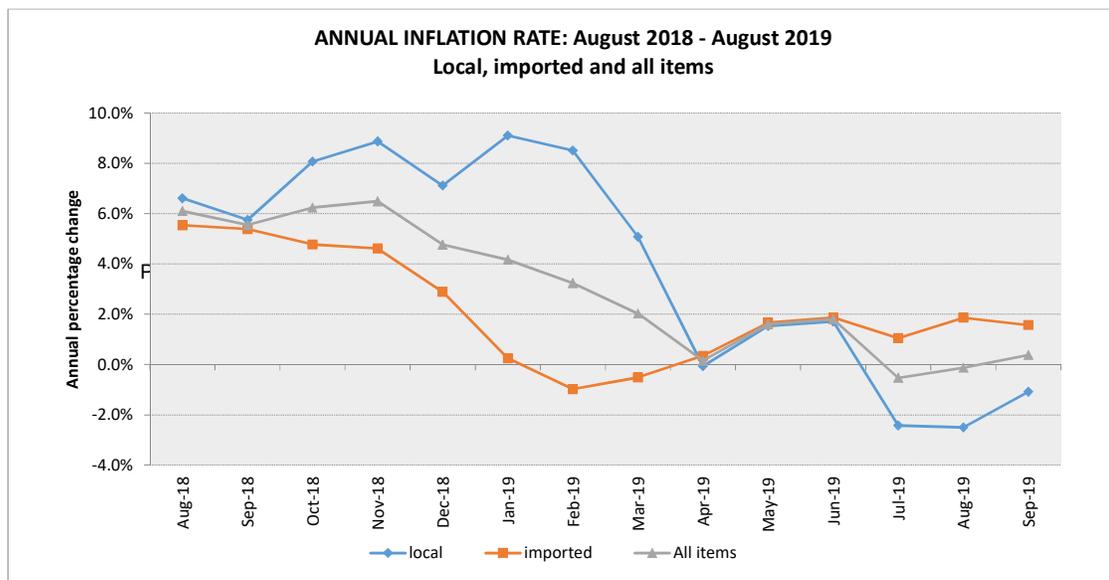


Fig 2: Graphical representation of Annual Inflation rate (%) for Local, Imported and All Items as measured by Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Fig 3: Contribution to % change from previous month, All groups
August 2019 to September 2019 .

Group	Local	Imported	Total
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	-0.3%	0.2%	-0.09%
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	-0.1%	0.0%	-0.05%
Clothing and footwear	0.0%	0.0%	0.03%
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	0.0%	-0.1%	-0.14%
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household m	0.0%	0.0%	0.01%
Health	0.0%	0.0%	0.00%
Transport	0.0%	0.2%	0.16%
Communication	0.0%	-	0.00%
Recreation and culture	-	0.0%	0.00%
Education	0.0%	-	0.00%
Restaurants and hotels	0.0%	-	0.00%
Miscellaneous goods and services	0.0%	0.0%	0.00%
TOTAL	-0.3%	0.2%	-0.1%

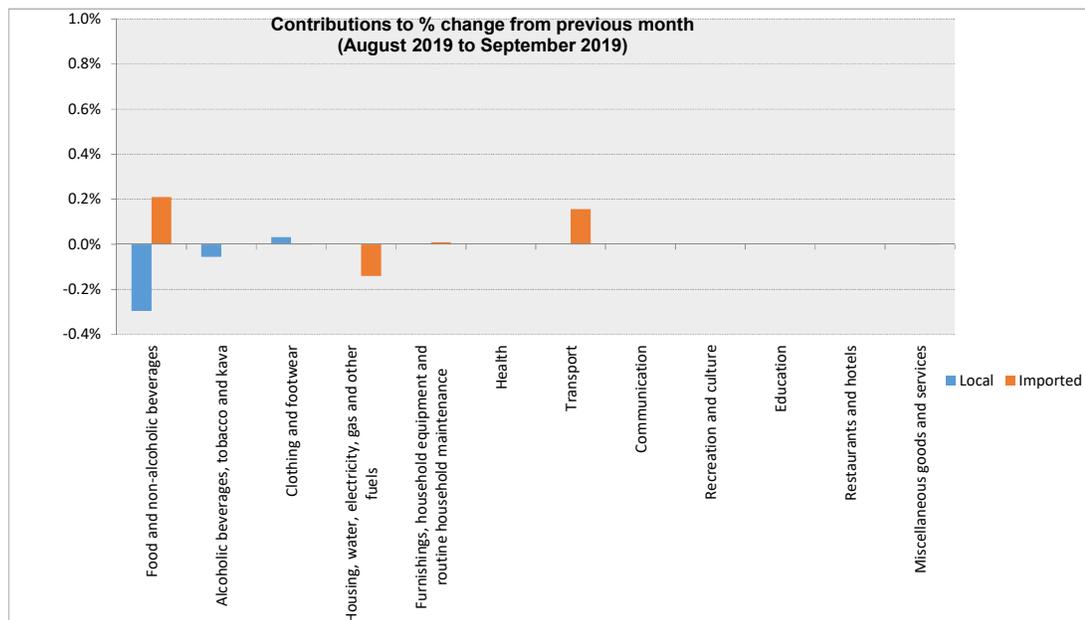


Fig 4: Contribution to % change from last year, All groups
September 2018 to September 2019.

	Local	Imported	Total
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	-0.4%	1.2%	0.80%
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	-0.5%	0.1%	-0.37%
Clothing and footwear	0.0%	0.0%	0.08%
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	-0.1%	-0.1%	-0.11%
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household m	0.0%	0.1%	0.06%
Health	0.0%	0.0%	0.00%
Transport	0.1%	-0.5%	-0.43%
Communication	0.0%	-	0.00%
Recreation and culture	-	0.0%	0.04%
Education	0.1%	-	0.09%
Restaurants and hotels	b	-	0.25%
Miscellaneous goods and services	0.0%	0.0%	-0.05%
TOTAL	-0.5%	0.9%	0.4%

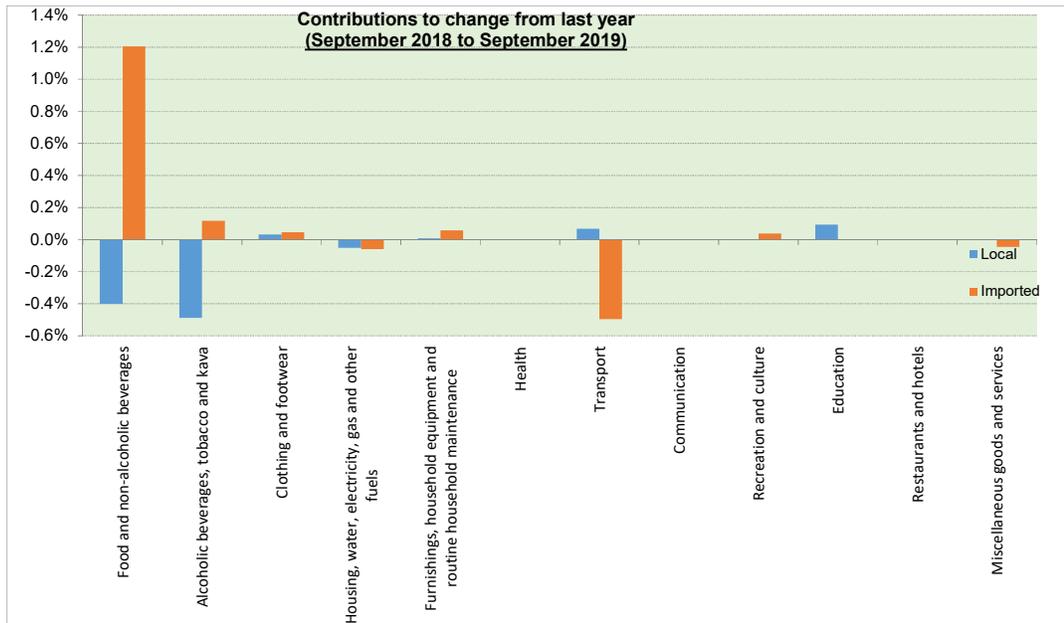


Table 1: Consumer Price Index by major groups

SEPTEMBER 2019

Year/month	All items	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	Clothing and footwear	Housing, water, electricity and gas	Furnishings, household equipment and household maintenance	Health	Transport	Communication	Recreation and culture	Education	Restaurants and hotels	Miscellaneous goods and services
Weight	100%	39.8%	11.6%	2.1%	10.8%	3.2%	0.3%	16.4%	5.2%	1.1%	2.2%	3.1%	4.2%
2018													
September	94.7	94.3	85.1	95.0	98.1	99.7	99.3	90.6	111.6	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.4
October	94.8	93.9	85.6	96.0	97.6	98.0	99.3	92.0	111.6	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.6
November	94.2	91.8	85.8	96.1	97.7	99.2	99.3	93.1	111.6	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.8
December	94.9	92.7	86.2	96.1	98.3	99.0	99.3	94.6	111.6	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.8
January	95.7	94.1	85.8	98.2	98.6	99.0	101.7	96.0	111.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
February	96.7	96.3	85.8	98.2	99.9	99.1	101.7	96.1	111.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.7
March	98.4	100.4	86.2	98.2	99.9	99.5	101.7	96.3	109.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.1
April	98.6	100.8	87.1	98.2	99.8	99.1	101.7	96.1	109.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.1
May	98.0	98.7	88.4	98.2	99.4	99.1	101.7	97.0	109.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.5
June	98.0	97.6	91.0	97.8	99.4	98.9	101.7	98.1	109.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.3
July	100.5	101.2	96.7	99.2	99.4	99.3	101.7	100.4	109.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.8
August	100.6	100.8	99.3	99.6	99.5	99.5	100.0	99.8	109.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.6
September	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
October	100.7	101.2	99.6	100.1	100.5	99.7	100.0	101.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.3	99.7
November	100.3	99.8	99.8	100.3	100.2	99.7	100.0	102.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.3	99.7
December	99.4	99.0	99.6	100.3	100.5	99.5	100.0	98.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.3	101.0
2019													
January	99.7	100.1	100.1	102.6	101.0	99.8	100.0	94.4	100.0	103.6	104.2	108.2	101.0
February	99.9	101.1	100.2	102.9	101.5	100.1	100.0	92.4	100.0	103.6	104.2	108.2	101.0
March	100.4	102.2	99.7	101.5	100.9	100.5	100.0	93.9	100.0	103.6	104.2	108.2	99.8
April	98.7	98.1	98.1	101.5	98.9	100.6	100.0	96.3	100.0	103.6	104.2	108.2	99.8
May	99.6	99.5	97.7	101.5	98.9	100.7	100.0	98.5	100.0	103.6	104.2	108.2	98.8
June	99.8	99.6	97.2	101.5	100.2	100.8	100.0	99.0	100.0	103.6	104.2	108.2	98.8
July	100.0	100.8	97.5	102.1	100.3	101.7	100.0	97.1	100.0	103.6	104.2	108.2	98.6
August	100.5	102.2	97.3	102.1	100.3	101.7	100.0	96.4	100.0	103.6	104.2	108.2	98.9
September	100.4	102.0	96.8	103.8	99.0	102.0	100.0	97.4	100.0	103.6	104.2	108.2	98.9
Percentage change between August 2019 and September 2019 .	-0.1	-0.2	-0.5	1.6	-1.3	0.3	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Percentage change between September 2018 and September 2019 .	0.4	2.0	-3.2	3.8	-1.0	2.0	0.0	-2.6	0.0	3.6	4.2	8.2	-1.1

Table 2: Consumer Price Index and annual inflation rate
(Base Period: September 2018=100.0)
September 2019

Year/month	Local	Import	All items	Monthly change for all items (%)	Annual inflation rate for period (%)	Average index for year	Average annual inflation rate (%)	
2017	January	91.7	88.8	90.0	0.6	5.4		
	February	97.5	90.4	93.3	3.7	8.9		
	March	97.6	90.9	93.7	0.4	9.4		
	April	98.9	90.8	94.2	0.5	9.8		
	May	99.3	91.0	94.5	0.3	10.3		
	June	100.2	91.6	95.2	0.8	10.7	91.6	9.1
	July	97.8	92.9	95.0	-0.2	7.4		
	August	95.9	94.1	94.8	-0.2	5.5		
	September	94.6	94.9	94.7	-0.1	5.8		
	October	93.6	95.7	94.8	0.0	6.4		
	November	92.6	95.5	94.2	-0.6	5.6		
	December	93.6	95.9	94.9	0.8	6.1	94.1	7.6
2018	January	94.2	97.0	95.7	0.9	6.4		
	February	95.6	97.7	96.7	1.1	3.7		
	March	99.3	97.6	98.4	1.7	5.0		
	April	100.0	97.4	98.6	0.2	4.7		
	May	98.2	97.8	98.0	-0.6	3.8		
	June	97.8	98.2	98.0	0.0	3.0	96.2	5.3
	July	102.1	99.2	100.5	2.6	5.8		
	August	102.2	99.3	100.6	0.1	6.1		
	September	100.0	100.0	100.0	-0.6	5.5		
	October	101.1	100.3	100.7	0.7	6.2		
	November	100.8	99.9	100.3	-0.4	6.5		
	December	100.3	98.7	99.4	-0.9	4.8	98.9	5.1
2019	January	102.8	97.2	99.7	0.3	4.2		
	February	103.7	96.8	99.9	0.1	3.2		
	March	104.3	97.1	100.4	0.5	2.0		
	April	99.9	97.7	98.7	-1.6	0.2		
	May	99.7	99.5	99.6	0.8	1.6		
	June	99.4	100.1	99.8	0.2	1.8	100.0	4.0
	July	99.6	100.3	100.0	0.2	-0.5		
	August	99.6	101.1	100.5	0.5	-0.1		
	September	98.9	101.6	100.4	-0.1	0.4	99.9	2.5

Table 3: Consumer Price Index with local and imported components
Percentage change from previous month
(Base Period: September 2018 = 100.0)
September 2019

	Weights			September 2019			August 2019			% Change		
	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total
A. Food and non-alcoholic beverages	15.2%	24.6%	39.8%	97.4	104.9	102.0	99.3	104.1	102.2	-2.0%	0.8%	-0.2%
Food	14.6%	23.2%	37.8%	97.2	105.2	102.1	99.3	104.3	102.3	-2.0%	0.9%	-0.2%
Non- alcoholic beverages	0.6%	1.4%	2.0%	100.0	100.4	100.3	100.0	100.2	100.1	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%
B. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	6.7%	4.9%	11.6%	92.8	102.4	96.8	93.6	102.4	97.3	-0.9%	0.0%	-0.5%
Alcoholic beverages	0.9%	3.2%	4.1%	102.8	103.2	103.1	102.8	103.2	103.1	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Tobacco	4.1%	1.7%	5.8%	98.0	100.8	98.8	97.2	100.8	98.3	0.8%	0.0%	0.6%
Kava	1.7%	0.0%	1.7%	75.4	-	75.4	80.4	-	80.4	-6.2%	-	-6.2%
C. Clothing and footwear	0.4%	1.7%	2.1%	109.0	102.7	103.8	100.0	102.5	102.1	9.0%	0.1%	1.6%
Clothing	0.4%	1.5%	1.8%	109.0	101.9	103.3	100.0	101.8	101.5	9.0%	0.0%	1.8%
Footwear	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%	-	107.0	107.0	-	106.3	106.3	-	0.6%	0.6%
D. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	7.2%	3.6%	10.8%	99.3	98.3	99.0	99.3	102.3	100.3	0.0%	-3.8%	-1.3%
Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	0.2%	1.8%	2.0%	112.8	107.3	107.3	112.8	107.3	107.9	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling	2.0%	0.0%	2.0%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0%	-	0.0%
Electricity, gas and other fuels	5.0%	1.8%	6.8%	98.4	89.8	96.1	98.4	97.4	98.1	0.0%	-7.9%	-2.1%
E. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household n	0.8%	2.4%	3.2%	100.9	102.4	102.0	100.9	102.0	101.7	0.0%	0.4%	0.3%
Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0%	-	0.0%
Household appliances	0.0%	0.7%	0.7%	-	100.2	100.2	-	100.2	100.2	-	0.0%	0.0%
Tools and equipment for house and garden	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	-	103.2	103.2	-	103.2	103.2	-	0.0%	0.0%
Goods and services for routine household maintenance	0.3%	1.5%	1.8%	102.3	103.3	103.2	102.3	102.7	102.6	0.0%	0.6%	0.5%
F. Health	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Medical products, appliances and equipment	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	0.0%	0.0%
Outpatient services	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0%	-	0.0%
G. Transport	3.4%	13.0%	16.4%	101.9	96.2	97.4	101.9	95.0	96.4	0.0%	1.3%	1.0%
Operation of personal transport equipment	1.3%	9.9%	11.2%	102.5	95.0	95.8	102.5	93.4	94.4	0.0%	1.7%	1.5%
Transport services	2.2%	3.1%	5.3%	101.6	100.0	100.7	101.6	100.0	100.7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
H. Communication	5.2%	0.0%	5.2%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0%	-	0.0%
Telephone and telefax services	5.2%	0.0%	5.2%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0%	-	0.0%
I. Recreation and culture	0.0%	1.1%	1.1%	-	103.6	103.6	-	103.6	103.6	-	0.0%	0.0%
Newspapers, books and stationery	0.0%	1.1%	1.1%	-	103.6	103.6	-	103.6	103.6	-	0.0%	0.0%
J. Education	2.2%	0.0%	2.2%	104.2	-	104.2	104.2	-	104.2	0.0%	-	0.0%
Pre-primary and primary education	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%	100.1	-	100.1	100.1	-	100.1	0.0%	-	0.0%
Secondary education	1.1%	0.0%	1.1%	106.2	-	106.2	106.2	-	106.2	0.0%	-	0.0%
Tertiary education	0.8%	0.0%	0.8%	103.4	-	103.4	103.4	-	103.4	0.0%	-	0.0%
K. Restaurants and hotels	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%	108.2	-	108.2	108.2	-	108.2	0.0%	-	0.0%
Catering services	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%	108.2	-	108.2	108.2	-	108.2	0.0%	-	0.0%
L. Miscellaneous goods and services	0.5%	3.7%	4.2%	100.0	98.8	98.9	100.0	98.7	98.9	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Personal care	0.0%	3.7%	3.7%	-	98.8	98.8	-	98.7	98.7	-	0.0%	0.0%
Financial services n.e.c.	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0%	-	0.0%
Other Services n.e.c.	0.4%	0.0%	0.4%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0%	-	0.0%
TOTAL	44.9%	55.1%	100%	98.9	101.6	100.4	99.6	101.1	100.5	-0.7%	0.4%	-0.1%

Table 4: Consumer Price Index with local and imported components
Percentage change from same month of previous year
(Base Period: September 2018 = 100.0)
September 2019

	Weights			September 2019			September 2018			% Change		
	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total
A. Food and non-alcoholic beverages	15.2%	24.6%	39.8%	97.4	104.9	102.0	100.0	100.0	100.00	-2.6	4.9	2.0
Food	14.6%	23.2%	37.8%	97.2	105.2	102.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	-2.8	5.2	2.1
Non- alcoholic beverages	0.6%	1.4%	2.0%	100.0	100.4	100.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.4	0.3
B. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	6.7%	4.9%	11.6%	92.8	102.4	96.8	100.0	100.0	100.00	-7.2	2.4	-3.2
Alcoholic beverages	0.9%	3.2%	4.1%	102.8	103.2	103.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.8	3.2	3.1
Tobacco	4.1%	1.7%	5.8%	98.0	100.8	98.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	-2.0	0.8	-1.2
Kava	1.7%	0.0%	1.7%	75.4	-	75.4	100.0	-	100.0	-24.6	-	-24.6
C. Clothing and footwear	0.4%	1.7%	2.1%	109.0	102.7	103.8	100.0	100.0	100.00	9.0	2.7	3.8
Clothing	0.4%	1.5%	1.8%	109.0	101.9	103.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	9.0	1.9	3.3
Footwear	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%	-	107.0	107.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	7.0	7.0
D. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	7.2%	3.6%	10.8%	99.3	98.3	99.0	100.0	100.0	100.00	-0.7	-1.7	-1.0
Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	0.2%	1.8%	2.0%	112.8	107.3	107.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	12.8	7.3	7.9
Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling	2.0%	0.0%	2.0%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
Electricity, gas and other fuels	5.0%	1.8%	6.8%	98.4	89.8	96.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	-1.6	-10.2	-3.9
E. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household n	0.8%	2.4%	3.2%	100.9	102.4	102.0	100.0	100.0	100.00	0.9	2.4	2.0
Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
Household appliances	0.0%	0.7%	0.7%	0.0	100.2	100.2	#N/A	100.0	100.0	-	0.2	0.2
Tools and equipment for house and garden	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	-	103.2	103.2	-	100.0	100.0	-	3.2	3.2
Goods and services for routine household maintenance	0.3%	1.5%	1.8%	102.3	103.3	103.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.3	3.3	3.2
F. Health	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.00	0.0	0.0	0.0
Medical products, appliances and equipment	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	0.0	0.0
Outpatient services	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
G. Transport	3.4%	13.0%	16.4%	101.9	96.2	97.4	100.0	100.0	100.00	1.9	-3.8	-2.6
Operation of personal transport equipment	1.3%	9.9%	11.2%	102.5	95.0	95.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.5	-5.0	-4.2
Transport services	2.2%	3.1%	5.3%	101.6	100.0	100.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	1.6	0.0	0.7
H. Communication	5.2%	0.0%	5.2%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.00	0.0	-	0.0
Telephone and telefax services	5.2%	0.0%	5.2%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
I. Recreation and culture	0.0%	1.1%	1.1%	-	103.6	103.6	-	100.0	100.00	-	3.6	3.6
Newspapers, books and stationery	0.0%	1.1%	1.1%	-	103.6	103.6	-	100.0	100.0	-	3.6	3.6
J. Education	2.2%	0.0%	2.2%	104.2	0.0	104.2	100.0	0.0	100.00	4.2	-	4.2
Pre-primary and primary education	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%	100.1	-	100.1	100.0	-	100.0	0.1	-	0.1
Secondary education	1.1%	0.0%	1.1%	106.2	-	106.2	100.0	-	100.0	6.2	-	6.2
Tertiary education	0.8%	0.0%	0.8%	103.4	-	103.4	100.0	-	100.0	3.4	-	3.4
K. Restaurants and hotels	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%	108.2	-	108.2	100.0	-	100.00	8.2	-	8.2
Catering services	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%	108.2	-	108.2	100.0	-	100.0	8.2	-	8.2
L. Miscellaneous goods and services	0.5%	3.7%	4.2%	100.0	98.8	98.9	100.0	100.0	100.00	0.0	-1.2	-1.1
Personal care	0.0%	3.7%	3.7%	-	98.8	98.8	-	100.0	100.0	-	-1.2	-1.2
Financial services n.e.c.	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
Other Services n.e.c.	0.4%	0.0%	0.4%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
TOTAL	44.9%	55.1%	100%	98.9	101.6	100.4	100.0	100.0	100.00	-1.1	1.6	0.4

**Table 5: Consumer
and subgroups - index r
Period: September 2018
September 2019**

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Group or Subgroup	Annual													
	2018	Sep 18	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	Jan 19	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 19	May 19	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19
A. Food and non-alcoholic beverages	99.2	100.0	101.2	99.8	99.0	100.1	101.1	102.2	98.1	99.5	99.6	100.8	102.2	102.0
Food	99.1	100.0	101.2	99.8	98.9	100.1	101.2	102.3	98.0	99.4	99.6	100.8	102.3	102.1
Non- alcoholic beverages	99.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	99.7	99.8	99.8	100.4	100.3	99.7	100.1	100.1	100.3
B. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	93.3	100.0	99.6	99.8	99.6	100.1	100.2	99.7	98.1	97.7	97.2	97.5	97.3	96.8
Alcoholic beverages	97.6	100.0	99.9	99.8	99.8	100.4	101.1	101.1	101.1	102.4	102.4	103.1	103.1	103.1
Tobacco	88.4	100.0	100.0	100.5	100.2	100.8	100.8	100.8	99.9	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.8
Kava	99.2	100.0	97.3	97.3	97.3	97.2	95.8	92.7	85.1	85.1	81.7	81.7	80.4	75.4
C. Clothing and footwear	99.0	100.0	100.1	100.3	100.3	102.6	102.9	101.5	101.5	101.5	101.5	102.1	102.1	103.8
Clothing	98.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	102.4	102.8	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.2	101.5	101.5	103.3
Footwear	100.4	100.0	101.1	102.4	102.4	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.8	106.3	106.3	107.0
D. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	99.8	100.0	100.5	100.2	100.5	101.0	101.5	100.9	98.9	98.9	100.2	100.3	100.3	99.0
Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	100.5	100.0	101.8	100.7	101.2	102.6	105.1	106.3	106.3	106.6	107.9	107.9	107.9	107.9
Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Electricity, gas and other fuels	99.5	100.0	100.3	100.1	100.4	100.8	100.8	99.7	96.4	96.4	98.1	98.1	98.1	96.1
E. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	99.4	100.0	99.7	99.7	99.5	99.8	100.1	100.5	100.6	100.7	100.8	101.7	101.7	102.0
Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Household appliances	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.6	99.6	99.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.2
Tools and equipment for house and garden	96.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.6	101.6	101.6	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.2
Goods and services for routine household maintenance	99.2	100.0	99.5	99.6	99.2	99.7	100.1	100.7	100.7	100.9	101.1	102.7	102.6	103.2
F. Health	101.0	100.0												
Medical products, appliances and equipment	101.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Outpatient services	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
G. Transport	98.5	100.0	101.1	102.2	98.5	94.4	92.4	93.9	96.3	98.5	99.0	97.1	96.4	97.4
Operation of personal transport equipment	97.7	100.0	101.6	103.2	97.7	91.0	88.8	91.1	94.2	97.5	98.2	95.4	94.4	95.8
Transport services	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.7	100.0	100.0	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7
H. Communication	106.6	100.0												
Telephone and telefax services	106.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
I. Recreation and culture	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	103.6								
Newspapers, books and stationery	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6
J. Education	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	104.2								
Pre-primary and primary education	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1
Secondary education	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2
Tertiary education	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.4
K. Restaurants and hotels	100.3	100.0	101.3	101.3	101.3	108.2								
Catering services	100.3	100.0	101.3	101.3	101.3	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2
L. Miscellaneous goods and services	100.0	100.0	99.7	99.7	101.0	101.0	101.0	99.8	99.8	98.8	98.8	98.6	98.9	98.9
Personal care	100.0	100.0	99.7	99.7	101.2	101.1	101.1	99.8	99.8	98.6	98.7	98.4	98.7	98.8
Financial services n.e.c.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Other Services n.e.c.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
ALL GROUPS	98.9	100.0	100.7	100.3	99.4	99.7	99.9	100.4	98.7	99.6	99.8	100.0	100.5	100.4

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	Unit	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sep 18	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	Jan 19	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 19	May 19	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19	
<u>ROOT CROPS</u>																			
1	Talo - Futuna	1 kg	1.88	2.23	1.96	1.76	1.91	1.83	1.94	1.92	2.02	1.91	1.73	1.73	1.49	1.73	1.72	1.52	1.39
2	Talo - Tonga	1kg	2.15	2.47	2.45	1.82	2.28	1.35	2.28	2.06	1.99	2.23	2.03	1.70	1.65	1.79	1.94	1.68	2.07
3	Manioke	1 kg	0.64	0.72	0.52	0.91	0.80	1.22	1.52	1.38	1.45	1.61	1.82	1.22	1.12	1.28	1.10	1.03	1.02
4	Kumala	1 kg	2.32	1.80	2.17	2.27	2.93	2.55	2.37	2.72	2.26	2.23	2.15	2.12	1.88	2.03	2.12	1.96	2.00
5	Yams; early	1 kg	5.96	6.67	4.97	5.37	5.47	6.89	9.43	5.33	5.43	5.13	5.06	3.90	3.58	4.42	4.92	6.33	5.95
6	Yams, late	1 kg	2.83	3.88	2.87	2.98	2.97	4.13	3.41	3.80	3.80	3.17	2.81	2.46	2.58	2.57	2.70	2.47	2.34
<u>VEGETABLES</u>																			
1	Lu	1 kg	5.74	5.99	7.96	5.50	5.50	6.89	5.92	4.60	6.12	4.90	4.83	4.00	3.58	3.40	3.65	4.34	5.40
2	Tomatoes	1 kg	4.39	5.03	8.41	7.75	3.47	3.24	2.96	4.90	10.74	14.19	14.56	15.92	14.68	10.37	7.97	6.55	6.84
3	H/Cabbage	1 kg	2.54	2.35	3.50	3.05	1.64	1.60	1.68	2.47	4.93	5.34	6.28	3.74	3.09	1.34	1.41	2.09	2.28
4	Carrots	1 kg	4.12	3.73	4.35	5.24	4.08	6.25	3.08	4.08	3.10	4.72	4.17	3.40	3.29	4.45	3.88	2.45	1.82
5	Capsicum	1 kg	7.04	7.19	9.91	14.19	10.53	6.20	4.90	5.07	8.69	11.27	14.29	8.47	9.31	14.94	17.04	15.45	10.23
<u>MARINE AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS</u>																			
1	Sausages	1 kg	6.76	6.59	6.71	8.32	8.29	8.30	8.23	8.23	8.26	8.30	8.23	8.26	8.19	8.19	8.19	8.19	8.26
2	Eggs	1 egg	16.54	15.99	16.33	16.65	17.30	16.97	16.13	15.17	15.08	14.92	16.58	18.29	19.63	17.67	17.83	17.33	16.67
3	Tuna	1 kg	10.06	10.27	11.31	15.39	16.00	16.00	17.31	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.49	17.00	17.00	17.56	17.00	
4	Octopus	1 kg	17.04	18.25	15.84	19.69	13.88	21.65	18.34	31.95	24.19	22.10	21.03	17.20	17.64	20.25	17.27	15.29	14.89
5	Cockles (to'o)	1 kg	4.69	4.74	4.39	5.12	5.52	5.34	5.36	5.50	5.08	5.14	5.06	4.79	5.21	6.86	7.01	5.81	6.12
6	Stringed fish (Mixed)	1 kg	8.11	8.63	8.40	8.54	9.00	9.00	8.74	9.00	8.65	8.00	8.39	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	
<u>TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND KAVA</u>																			
1	Kava	1 kg	25.42	66.67	124.38	146.04	147.50	142.50	142.50	142.50	142.50	140.00	135.00	121.25	121.25	115.00	115.00	112.50	105.00

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	Unit	Annual																Annual change %		
		2015	2016	2017	Aug 18	Sept 18	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	Jan 19	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 19	May 19	June 19	July 19	Aug 19		Sept 19	
<u>FOOD</u>																				
Fruits and Vegetables																				
1	Onions	1 kg	3.35	3.11	3.25	2.93	2.86	2.79	2.86	3.00	3.14	3.21	3.21	3.07	3.14	3.11	3.20	2.98	3.08	7.8%
2	Apples	1 kg	8.59	7.81	8.11	7.84	10.03	5.79	5.11	5.11	5.14	5.14	5.25	6.03	5.54	5.17	5.20	5.25	5.25	-47.6%
3	Oranges	1 kg	10.21	9.74	9.41	11.33	11.20	8.25	8.25	8.25	8.77	8.98	7.91	8.25	9.24	8.31	8.41	8.46	8.46	-24.5%
Meats, Fish & Poultry																				
1	Mutton Flaps	1 kg	12.00	11.49	14.45	15.75	15.88	15.88	15.65	15.38	15.38	15.31	15.41	15.46	15.61	15.65	15.78	15.88	15.92	0.2%
2	Chicken Legs	1 kg	3.45	3.35	3.97	3.34	3.16	2.95	2.57	2.55	2.66	2.67	2.63	2.89	3.45	3.80	4.05	4.38	4.48	41.7%
3	Turkey tail	1 kg	5.31	5.05	5.90	8.96	9.21	9.21	10.09	10.61	10.48	9.56	9.56	9.52	9.58	9.61	9.80	10.11	9.99	8.4%
Other Food																				
1	Flour	1 kg	1.70	1.72	1.74	1.72	1.69	1.72	1.74	1.74	1.74	1.70	1.73	1.78	1.78	1.77	1.78	1.78	1.79	5.9%
2	Sugar	1 kg	1.94	2.18	2.56	1.83	1.78	1.74	1.73	1.74	1.65	1.65	1.72	1.77	1.78	1.78	1.75	1.75	1.75	-1.9%
<u>TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND KAVA</u>																				
Tobacco																				
1	Pall Mall	Packet	12.64	14.03	17.71	19.14	19.14	19.14	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	0.7%
<u>TRANSPORTATION</u>																				
Private Transportation																				
1	Petrol	litre	2.36	2.22	2.51	2.84	2.85	2.90	2.93	2.74	2.53	2.46	2.53	2.64	2.76	2.79	2.68	2.65	2.70	-5.3%
2	Diesel	litre	2.32	2.17	2.47	2.89	2.91	2.97	3.09	2.94	2.71	2.63	2.71	2.79	2.86	2.85	2.79	2.75	2.78	-4.5%

About the Consumer Price Index

The Monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) published by the Statistics Department is accepted as the official measure of inflation in Tonga. The CPI measures the changing price of a fixed basket of goods and services purchased by Tongan households. The selection and relative importance of the goods and services in the CPI basket represents the overall expenditure pattern of Tongan households.

The CPI is used by ministries and other agencies for monitoring economic performance and by the National Reserve Bank of Tonga to help set monetary policy.

The new index reference period of September 2018 (=100.0) was first published for the month of October 2018. Data from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) 2015-2016 was used to determine the expenditure pattern of consumers. The classification used for publication will change to the [COICOP](#) classification. The proportion of expenditure on each item or group is referred to the weight. The previous reference period was October 2010 based on the results of HIES 2009.

There are 156 items in the Tonga basket classified to twelve major groups. The items are further classified by whether they are imported or have been produced locally. The CPI covers price changes in Tongatapu and Vava'u. The pricing outlets selected in Tongatapu and Vava'u include the Talamahu and 'Utukalongalo market (agriculture produce), the Vuna Wharf (fresh fish), super-markets, village stores, petrol stations, restaurants, airlines etc.

The groups and their index reference period weights are shown in the table below.

Table 1: New vs. old weights at the COICOP Division level

Division Code	Division Deser	New Weight	Old Weight
01	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	39.75%	42.06%
02	Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics	11.61%	6.08%
03	Clothing and footwear	2.08%	3.98%
04	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	10.84%	12.56%
05	Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	3.20%	3.13%
06	Health	0.33%	0.58%
07	Transport	16.41%	11.93%
08	Communication	5.16%	5.40%
09	Recreation and culture	1.06%	1.48%
10	Education	2.21%	1.95%
11	Restaurants and hotels	3.11%	3.71%
12	Miscellaneous goods and services	4.24%	6.30%
90	Non-consumption household expenditure		0.85%
Grand Total		100.00%	100.00%

Further definitions

A **price index** measures the change in price between time periods for a given set of goods and services. It summarises a set of prices for a variety of goods and services collected from a number of outlets.

The **index reference period** is the benchmark to which prices in other periods are compared (e.g. if the index number in a later period is 115, prices have increased by 15.0 percent since the index reference period). Prices for later periods can also be compared in similar fashion.



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