

Series No.: SDT: 23-402

KINGDOM OF TONGA

# **Consumer Price Index**

# **Statistical Bulletin** MAY 2020









Statistics Department P.O. Box 149 Nuku'alofa Kingdom of Tonga www.spc.int/prism/tonga/ dept@stats.gov.to

June 2020 Price: TOP 2.50

# STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MAY 2020

(Base Period: September 2018 = 100.0)

#### Consumer Price Index for May 2020 decreased by 0.4% With an Annual inflation Rate of 0.1%.

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 May 2020 decreased by 0.4 to 99.6 from 100.0 in the previous month. Over the previous two months, the index for all items decreased by 0.8% in April 2020 and increased by 0.2% in March 2020.
- 2. When comparing the local and imported indices for May 2020 to the previous month. Local index increased by 0.7% and import index decreased by 1.2%.
- 3. The annual rate of inflation for May 2020 was 0.1% compared to 1.3% inflation in previous month. The annual inflation for the same month of previous year, May 2019, was 1.6% (Inflation).
- 4. When comparing the **annual change** in the **local** and **imported indices** for **May 2020**, the local index recorded a decrease by **0.1%** and import index increased by **0.2%**.

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

#### A. FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

**Food Group** recorded an increase towards the index position of **May 2020**. Although there was price decrease in some local items including **fish** but offset by increase in price of some food items such as **Tomatoes, Lobster, yam early, tuna, palu, egg, mutton flap, chicken wing, sweet potatoes** that increased throughout the month.

#### B. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO AND KAVA

Although there were price changes during the month, the overall change remains an increase due to increase in price of *Cigarettes and Beer (import)* compared to the previous month.

#### C. CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

Price of items in this group recorded an increase due to increase in clothing which includes price of *pingiako, T-shirts (men) and school shirt (boys' long sleeves)* compared to the previous month.

#### D. HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY AND GAS

Although there were price changes during the month, the overall change remains an increase due to increase in price of *Timber* compared to the previous month.

#### E. FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE

Although there were price changes during the month, the overall change remains an increase due to increase in price of **washing machine**, **wooden beds and detergent** compared to the previous month.

#### F. HEALTH

Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month.

1.2%

1.7%

2.2%

# 0.3%

1.1%

G.	<b>TRANSPORT</b> Price of items in this group recorded a significant decrease towards the index position of <b>May 2020</b> decrease in price of <b>Petrol and diesel</b> compared to the previous month.	<b>-7.5%</b> ue to
н.	<b>COMMUNICATION</b> Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month.	0.0%
I.	<b>RECREATION AND CULTURE</b> Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month.	0.0%
J.	EDUCATION Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month.	0.0%
K.	<b>RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS</b> Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month.	0.0%
L.	MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	0.5%

Although there were price changes during the month, the overall change remains an increase due to increase in price of some items in this group compared to the previous month.

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Dr.Viliami Konifelenisi Fifita Government Statistian



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

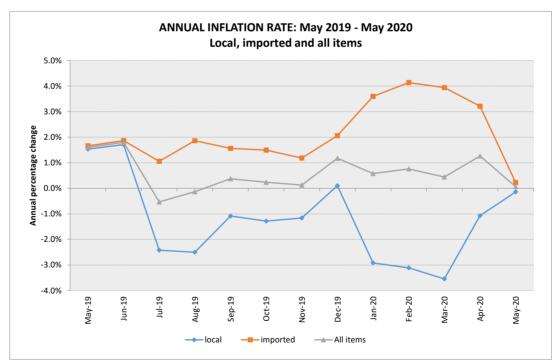
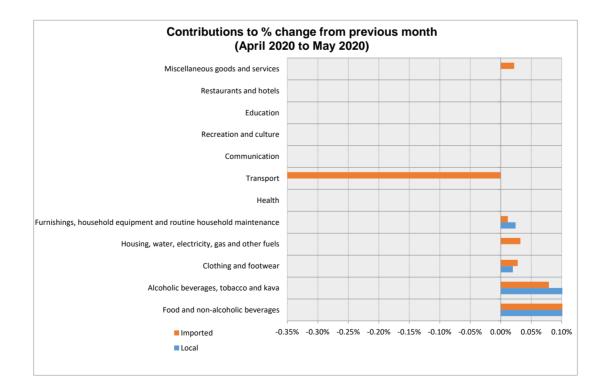


Fig 2: Graphical representation of Annual Inflation rate (%) for Local, Imported and All Items as measured by Consumer Price Index (CPI)

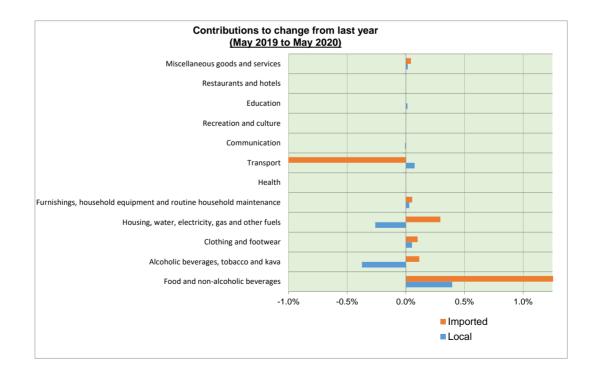
Group	Local	Imported	Total
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	0.16%	0.33%	0.49%
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	0.11%	0.08%	0.19%
Clothing and footwear	0.02%	0.03%	0.05%
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	0.00%	0.03%	0.03%
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household m	0.02%	0.01%	0.04%
Health	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Transport	0.00%	-1.17%	-1.17%
Communication	0.00%	-	0.00%
Recreation and culture	-	0.00%	0.00%
Education	0.00%	-	0.00%
Restaurants and hotels	0.00%	-	0.00%
Miscellaneous goods and services	0.00%	0.02%	0.02%
TOTAL	0.31%	-0.67%	-0.4%

#### Fig 3: Contribution to % change from previous month, All groups <u>April 2020 to May 2020 .</u>



	Local	Imported	Total
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	0.4%	1.4%	1.79%
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	-0.4%	0.1%	-0.26%
Clothing and footwear	0.1%	0.1%	0.15%
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	-0.3%	0.3%	0.03%
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household m	0.0%	0.1%	0.08%
Health	0.0%	0.0%	0.00%
Transport	0.1%	-1.9%	-1.81%
Communication	0.0%	-	-0.01%
Recreation and culture	_	0.0%	0.00%
Education	0.0%	-	0.01%
Restaurants and hotels	b	-	0.00%
Miscellaneous goods and services	0.0%	0.0%	0.06%
TOTAL	-0.1%	0.1%	0.1%

#### Fig 4: Contribution to % change from last year, All groups <u>May 2019 to May 2020.</u>



TONGA SDT:23-402

Table 1: Consumer Price Index by major groups													
						MAY 2020							
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	Communicati on	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 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
October	100.9	102.8	96.5	103.8	100.0	102.0	100.0	98.3	100.0	103.6	104.2	108.2	99.3
November December	100.4 100.6	100.7 101.4	96.6 95.1	103.9 104.3	100.4 100.8	102.1 100.5	100.0 100.0	99.4 99.7	101.6 101.6	103.6 103.6	104.2 104.2	108.2 108.2	99.7 99.8
		101.4		104.3	100.8		100.0	99.7 99.7	101.6	103.6	104.2	108.2	
2020 January	100.3 100.6	100.5	95.5 94.7	105.5	100.5	100.5 100.2	100.0	99.7 99.6	101.6	103.6	104.2	108.2	99.9 100.0
February March	100.8	101.8	94.7 94.7	106.1	100.6	100.2	100.0	99.0 97.4	101.6	103.6	104.8	108.2	100.0
	100.8	102.3	94.7 93.9	106.5	98.9	100.3	100.0	97.4 94.7	99.9	103.6	104.8	108.2	99.7
April													
May	99.6	104.0	95.5	108.8	99.2	103.3	100.0	87.6	99.9	103.6	104.8	108.2	100.2
Percentage change between April 2020 and May 2020.	-0.4	1.2	1.7	2.2	0.3	1.1	0.0	-7.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
	-0.4	1.2	1./	2.2	0.3	1.1	0.0	-7.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Percentage change between May 2019 and May 2020.	0.1	4.5	-2.3	7.2	0.3	2.6	0.0	-11.1	-0.1	0.0	0.6	0.0	1.4
nay 2013 and May 2020.	V.1	7.3	-2.3	1.4	0.0	2.0	0.0		-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4

TONGA SDT: 402

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

			(Dase Pen	MAY 2020	er 2018=100.0 )	')		
Year/mont	th	Local	Import	All items	Monthly change for all items (%)	inflation rate for period (%)	Average index for year	annual inflation rate (%)
2017	January	91.7	88.8	90.0	0.9	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	<u>91.4</u>	<u>7.3</u>
	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	<u>94.1</u>	<u>7.6</u>
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	<u>96.2</u>	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	0.0	6.2		
	November	100.8	99.9	100.3	-0.4	6.5		
	December	100.3	98.7	99.4	-0.9	4.8	<u>98.9</u>	<u>5.1</u>
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	<u>100.0</u>	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		
	October	99.8	101.8	100.9	0.5	0.2		
	November	99.7	101.0	100.4	-0.5	0.1		
	December	100.4	100.7	100.6	0.2	1.2	<u>100.1</u>	<u>1.2</u>
2020	January	99.8	100.7	100.3	-0.3	0.6		
	February	100.5	100.8	100.6	0.3	0.8		
	March	100.6	100.9	100.8	0.2	0.4		
	April	98.9	100.9	100.0	-0.8	1.3		
	May	99.6	99.7	99.6	-0.4	0.1	<u>100.3</u>	0.5

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Table 3: Con	sumer l	Price Index	c with lo	ocal an	d imported	d comp	onents						
Percentage change from previous month (Base Period: September 2018=100.0)													
	(Bas				8=100.0)								
		N	IAY 202	20									
		Weights			May 2020			April 2020			% Change		
	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Tota	
A. Food and non-alcoholic beverages	15.2%	24.6%	39.8%	101.8	105.3	104.0	100.7	104.0	102.8	1.0%	1.3%	1.2%	
Food	14.6%	23.2%	37.8%	101.9	105.7	104.2	100.8	104.2	102.9	1.1%	1.4%	1.3%	
Non- alcoholic beverages	0.6%	1.4%	2.0%	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.8	100.6	0.0%	-0.9%	-0.6	
B. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	6.7%	4.9%	11.6%	<u>89.3</u>	104.1	95.5	87.7	102.5	93.9	1.8%	1.6%	1.7%	
Alcoholic beverages	0.9%	3.2%	4.1%	106.9	105.5	105.8	106.9	103.4	104.2	0.0%	2.0%	1.69	
Торассо	4.1%	1.7%	5.8%	100.4	101.5	100.7	97.8	100.8	98.7	2.7%	0.7%	2.19	
Kava	1.7%	0.0%	1.7%	54.3	-	54.3	54.3	-	54.3	0.0%	-	0.0%	
0. Olathing and factories	0.49/	4 70/	0.49/	4447	407.0	400.0	400.0	400.0	400 5	5 49/	4.50/	0.00	
C. Clothing and footwear Clothing	<u>0.4%</u> 0.4%	<u>1.7%</u> 1.5%	<u>2.1%</u> 1.8%	<u>114.7</u> 114.7	<u>107.6</u> 107.8	<u>108.8</u> 109.2	<u>109.0</u> 109.0	<u>106.0</u> 105.9	106.5 106.5	<u>5.1%</u> 5.1%	<u>1.5%</u> 1.8%	2.2% 2.5%	
Footwear	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	-	107.8	109.2	- 109.0	105.9	106.5	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%	
lootwear	0.070	0.578	0.570	-	100.7	100.7	-	100.7	100.7	_	0.078	0.07	
D. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	<u>7.2%</u>	<u>3.6%</u>	<u>10.8%</u>	<u>95.7</u>	<u>106.3</u>	<u>99.2</u>	<u>95.7</u>	105.4	<u>98.9</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	0.8%	0.3%	
Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	0.2%	1.8%	2.0%	112.8	109.6	109.9	112.8	107.7	108.3	0.0%	1.7%	1.5%	
Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling	2.0%	0.0%	2.0%	108.1	-	108.1	108.1	-	108.1	0.0%	-	0.0%	
Electricity, gas and other fuels	5.0%	1.8%	6.8%	89.9	103.2	93.5	89.9	103.2	93.5	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
E. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household n	0.8%	2.4%	3.2%	104.3	102.9	103.3	101.4	102.4	102.2	2.8%	0.5%	1.1%	
Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	105.5	-	105.5	100.8	-	100.8	4.6%	-	4.6%	
Household appliances	0.0%	0.7%	0.7%	-	94.8	94.8	-	94.1	94.1	-	0.7%	0.7%	
Tools and equipment for house and garden	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	-	101.4	101.4	-	101.4	101.4	-	0.0%	0.0%	
Goods and services for routine household maintenance	0.3%	1.5%	1.8%	102.3	106.8	106.0	102.3	106.3	105.6	0.0%	0.4%	0.4%	
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%	103.2	83.4	87.6	103.2	92.5	94.7	0.0%	-9.8%	-7.5%	
Operation of personal transport equipment	1.3%	9.9%	11.2%	103.5	77.5	80.4	103.5	89.3	90.9	0.0%	-13.2%	-11.5	
Transport services	2.2%	3.1%	5.3%	103.0	102.6	102.8	103.0	102.6	102.8	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
	F 00/	0.0%	5.00/							0.0%		0.00	
H. Communication Telephone and telefax services	<u>5.2%</u> 5.2%	<u>0.0%</u> 0.0%	<u>5.2%</u> 5.2%	<u>99.9</u> 99.9	=	<u>99.9</u> 99.9	<u>99.9</u> 99.9	=	<u>99.9</u> 99.9	<u>0.0%</u> 0.0%	=	<u>0.0%</u> 0.0%	
relephone and telefax services	J.2 /0	0.0 %	J.2 /0	33.5	-	99.9	33.3	-	99.9	0.078	-	0.07	
I. Recreation and culture	0.0%	<u>1.1%</u>	<u>1.1%</u>	-	<u>103.6</u>	<u>103.6</u>	:	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%	104.8	=	104.8	104.8	-	104.8	0.0%	-	0.0%	
Pre-primary and primary education	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%	100.1	-	100.1	100.1	98.5	100.1	0.0%	-	0.09	
Secondary education	1.1%	0.0%	1.1%	107.0	-	107.0	107.0	-	107.0	0.0%	-	0.0%	
Tertiary education	0.8%	0.0%	0.8%	103.9	-	103.9	103.9	-	103.9	0.0%	-	0.09	
K. Restaurants and hotels	<u>3.1%</u>	0.0%	<u>3.1%</u>	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%	-	0.09	
-	0.5%	0	4.000	400.0		400.0	100.0	00.0	oc -	0.000	0.000		
L. Miscellaneous goods and services	0.5%	<u>3.7%</u>	<u>4.2%</u>	<u>103.3</u>	<u>99.8</u>	<u>100.2</u>	<u>103.3</u>	<u>99.2</u>	<u>99.7</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	0.6%	0.5	
Personal care Financial services n.e.c.	0.0% 0.1%	3.7% 0.0%	3.7% 0.1%	- 100.0	99.8	99.8 100.0	- 100.0	99.2	99.2 100.0	- 0.0%	0.6%	0.6	
Other Services n.e.c.	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0%	-	0.0	
Union Gen MUES 11.8.6.	0.4%	0.0%	0.470	104.2	-	104.2	104.2	-	104.2	- 0.0%		0.0%	
TOTAL	44.9%	55.1%	100%	99.6	99.7	99.6	98.9	100.9	100.0	0.7%	-1.2%	-0.4	

Table 4: Caro	umor Br	ioo Indox y	with loc	aland	imported		onto				TONGA SDT:23-40	)2		
	Table 4: Consumer Price Index with local and imported components Percentage change from same month of previous year (Base Period: September 2018=100.0)													
	•	MA	Y 2020											
		Weights			May 2020			May 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%	101.8	105.3	104.0	99.2	99.7	99.49	2.6	5.7	4.5		
Food	14.6%	23.2%	37.8%	101.9	105.7	104.2	99.2	99.6	99.4	2.7	6.1	4.8		
Non- alcoholic beverages	0.6%	1.4%	2.0%	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.5	100.3	0.0	-0.5	-0.4		
B. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	6.7%	4.9%	11.6%	89.3	104.1	<u>95.5</u>	94.8	101.8	97.74	-5.8	2.3	-2.3		
Alcoholic beverages	0.9%	3.2%	4.1%	106.9	105.5	105.8	102.8	102.3	102.4	4.0	3.1	3.3		
Tobacco	4.1%	1.7%	5.8%	100.4	101.5	100.7	97.2	100.8	98.3	3.2	0.7	2.5		
Kava	1.7%	0.0%	1.7%	54.3	-	54.3	85.1	-	85.1	-36.2	-	-36.2		
C. Clothing and footwear	0.4%	1.7%	2.1%	114.7	107.6	108.8	100.0	101.8	101.53	14.7	5.7	7.2		
Clothing	0.4%	1.5%	1.8%	114.7	107.8	109.2	100.0	101.5	101.2	14.7	6.2	7.9		
Footwear	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%	-	106.7	106.7	-	103.8	103.8	-	2.7	2.7		
D. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	7.2%	3.6%	10.8%	95.7	106.3	99.2	99.3	98.2	98.93	-3.6	8.3	0.3		
Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	0.2%	1.8%	2.0%	112.8	109.6	109.9	112.8	105.8	106.6	0.0	3.5	3.1		
Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling	2.0%	0.0%	2.0%	108.1	-	108.1	100.0	-	100.0	8.1	-	8.1		
Electricity, gas and other fuels	5.0%	1.8%	6.8%	89.9	103.2	93.5	98.4	90.9	96.4	-8.6	13.6	-3.0		
E. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household r	0.8%	2.4%	3.2%	104.3	102.9	103.3	100.9	100.6	100.70	3.4	2.3	2.6		
Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	105.5	-	105.5	100.0	-	100.0	5.5	-	5.5		
Household appliances	0.0%	0.7%	0.7%	0.0	94.8	94.8	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	-5.2	-5.2		
Tools and equipment for house and garden	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	-	101.4	101.4	0.0	103.2	103.2	-	-1.7	-1.7		
Goods and services for routine household maintenance	0.3%	1.5%	1.8%	102.3	106.8	106.0	102.3	100.6	100.9	0.0	6.1	5.0		
F. Health	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	100.0	100.0	<u>100.0</u>	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	<u>3.4%</u>	<u>13.0%</u>	16.4%	<u>103.2</u>	<u>83.4</u>	87.6	<u>101.0</u>	<u>97.9</u>	<u>98.54</u>	<u>2.1</u>	<u>-14.7</u>	<u>-11.1</u>		
Operation of personal transport equipment	1.3%	9.9%	11.2%	103.5	77.5	80.4	100.0	97.2	97.5	3.5	-20.3	-17.5		
Transport services	2.2%	3.1%	5.3%	103.0	102.6	102.8	101.6	100.0	100.7	1.4	2.6	2.1		
H. Communication	<u>5.2%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	5.2%	<u>99.9</u>	=	<u>99.9</u>	<u>100.0</u>	-	100.00	<u>-0.1</u>	-	<u>-0.1</u>		
Telephone and telefax services	5.2%	0.0%	5.2%	99.9	-	99.9	100.0	-	100.0	-0.1	-	-0.1		
I. Recreation and culture	0.0%	1.1%	1.1%	-	103.6	103.6	-	103.6	103.55	-	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%	104.8	<u>0.0</u>	104.8	104.2	0.0	104.23	0.6	-	0.6		
Pre-primary and primary education	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%	100.1	-	100.1	100.1	98.5	100.1	0.0	-	0.0		
Secondary education	1.1%	0.0%	1.1%	107.0	-	107.0	106.2	-	106.2	0.8	-	0.8		
Tertiary education	0.8%	0.0%	0.8%	103.9	-	103.9	103.4	-	103.4	0.5	-	0.5		
K. Restaurants and hotels	3.1%	0.0%	<u>3.1%</u>	108.2	<u>-</u>	<u>108.2</u>	<u>108.2</u>	<u>-</u>	108.19	0.0	<u> </u>	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	<u>0.5%</u>	<u>3.7%</u>	<u>4.2%</u>	<u>103.3</u>	<u>99.8</u>	<u>100.2</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>98.6</u>	<u>98.78</u>	<u>3.3</u>	<u>1.2</u>	<u>1.4</u>		
Personal care	0.0%	3.7%	3.7%	-	99.8	99.8	-	98.6	98.6	-	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%	104.2	-	104.2	100.0	-	100.0	4.2	-	4.2		
TOTAL	44.9%	55.1%	100%	99.6	99.7	99.6	99.7	99.5	99.57	-0.1	0.2	0.1		

Table 5: Consumer Price Index Groups and subgroups - index numbers TONGA															
				•	•	•		s							
			(Base Pe	eriod: Sep		2018 = 100 2020	0.0)						SDT:23-40	2	
	Annual				way	2020									
43922.0	2018	May 19	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19	Oct 19	Nov 19	Dec 19	Jan 20	Feb 20	Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	
A. Food and non-alcoholic beverages	99.2	99.5	99.6	100.8	102.2	102.0	102.8	100.7	101.4	100.5	101.6	102.3	102.8	104.0	
Food	99.1	99.4	99.6	100.8	102.3	102.1	102.9	100.7	101.5	100.5	101.7	102.4	102.9	104.3	
Non- alcoholic beverages	99.5	100.3	99.7	100.1	100.1	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.2	100.2	100.4	100.4	100.6	100.0	
B. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	93.3	97.7	97.2	97.5	97.3	96.8	96.5	96.6	95.1	95.5	94.7	94.7	93.9	95.5	
Alcoholic beverages	97.6	102.4	102.4	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.4	103.4	103.1	103.7	103.7	103.7	104.2	105.8	
Tobacco	88.4	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.8	98.8	99.1	97.6	98.7	99.9	100.5	98.7	100.7	
Kava	99.2	85.1	81.7	81.7	80.4	75.4	72.7	72.7	68.3	66.2	56.4	54.3	54.3	54.3	
C. Clothing and footwear	99.0	101.5	101.5	102.1	102.1	103.8	103.8	103.9	104.3	105.5	106.1	106.1	106.5	108.8	
Clothing	98.8	101.2	101.2	101.5	101.5	103.3	103.3	103.4	103.8	105.2	106.0	106.0	106.5	109.2	
Footwear	100.4	103.8	103.8	106.3	106.3	107.0	107.0	107.2	107.2	107.4	107.4	107.4	106.7	106.7	
D. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	<b>99.8</b> 100.5	98.9 106.6	100.2 107.9	100.3 107.9	<b>100.3</b> 107.9	<b>99.0</b> 107.9	<b>100.0</b> 106.9	100.4 109.2	<b>100.8</b> 107.1	<b>100.5</b> 107.1	<b>100.6</b> 107.1	<b>102.6</b> 107.1	98.9 108.3	99.2 109.9	
Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwe		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	108.1	108.1	108.1	108.1	108.1	107.1	108.1	108.1	
Electricity, gas and other fuels	99.5	96.4	98.1	98.1	98.1	96.1	95.6	95.6	96.8	96.4	96.5	99.7	93.5	93.5	
E. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maint	99.4	100.7	100.8	101.7	101.7	102.0	102.0	102.1	100.5	100.5	100.2	100.3	102.2	103.3	
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	100.8	100.8	100.8	105.5	
Household appliances	100.0	100.0	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.2	92.2	92.2	92.2	92.2	94.1	94.8	
Tools and equipment for house and garden	96.8	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.2	100.2	106.4	106.4	106.4	103.3	101.4	101.4	
Goods and services for routine household maintenance	99.2	100.9	101.1	102.7	102.6	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.2	103.2	102.4	103.0	105.6	106.0	
F. Health	101.0	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	
Medical products, appliances and equipment	97.2	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	98.5	99.0	97.1	96.4	97.4	98.3	99.4	99.7	99.7	99.6	97.4	94.7	87.6	
Operation of personal transport equipment	97.7	97.5	98.2	95.4	94.4	95.8	97.2	98.6	98.9	99.0	98.1	94.9	90.9	80.4	
Transport services	100.0	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	101.2	101.2	101.2	102.8	102.8	102.8	102.8	
H. Communication	106.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.6	101.6	101.6	101.6	101.6	99.9	99.9	
Telephone and telefax services	106.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.6	101.6	101.6	101.6	101.6	99.9	99.9	
I. Recreation and culture	100.0	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	
Newspapers, books and stationery	100.0	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	103.6	
J. Education	100.0	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8	
Pre-primary and primary education	100.0	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	
Secondary education	100.0	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.0	
Tertiary education	99.4	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.4	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.9	
K. Restaurants and hotels	100.3	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	
Catering services	100.3	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.2	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	98.8	98.8	98.6	98.9	98.9	99.3	99.7	99.8	99.9	100.0	100.8	99.7	100.	
Personal care	100.0	98.6	98.7	98.4	98.7	98.8	98.8	99.2	99.3	99.5	99.5	100.4	99.2	99.8	
Financial services n.e.c. 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	100.0 104.2	100.0 104.2	100.0 104.2	100.0 104.2	100.0 104.2	100.0 104.2	100.0 104.2	100.0 104.2	
ALL GROUPS	98.9	99.6	99.8	100.0	100.5	100.4	100.9	100.4	100.6	100.3	100.6	100.8	100.0	99.	

	Table 6: Monthly average price of selected local items															TONGA DT:23-402		
	Unit 2017 2018 May 19 Jun 19 Jul 19 Aug 19 Sep 19 Oct 19 Nov 19 Dec 19 Jan 20 Feb 20 Mar 20															Apr 20	May 20	
	ROOT CROPS																	
1	Talo - Futuna	1 kg	1.96	1.76	1.49	1.73	1.72	1.52	1.39	1.55	1.46	1.52	1.25	1.35	1.23	1.35	1.30	
2	Talo - Tonga	1kg	2.45	1.82	1.65	1.79	1.94	1.68	2.07	2.04	1.89	1.88	1.34	1.28	1.30	1.49	1.49	
3	Manioke	1 kg	0.52	0.91	1.12	1.28	1.10	1.03	1.02	1.07	0.92	0.97	0.98	0.87	0.85	0.83	0.82	
4	Kumala	1 kg	2.17	2.27	1.88	2.03	2.12	1.96	2.00	1.75	1.63	1.28	1.38	1.28	1.39	1.18	1.40	
5	Yams; early	1 kg	4.97	5.37	3.58	4.42	4.92	6.33	5.95	6.06	5.98	5.79	6.19	4.85	3.74	3.42	4.21	
6	Yams, late	1 kg	2.87	2.98	2.58	2.57	2.70	2.47	2.34	3.07	3.07	3.07	3.07	3.07	3.07	2.86	2.94	
	<u>VEGETABLES</u>																	
1	Lu	1 kg	7.96	5.50	3.58	3.40	3.65	4.34	5.40	5.09	5.01	6.97	5.83	4.96	7.55	5.56	4.78	
2	Tomatoes	1 kg	8.41	7.75	14.68	10.37	7.97	6.55	6.84	8.61	7.06	5.40	5.83	15.23	15.13	15.40	15.45	
3	H/Cabbage	1 kg	3.50	3.05	3.09	1.34	1.41	2.09	2.28	2.04	1.97	3.74	3.00	5.57	5.54	5.54	4.85	
4	Carrots	1 kg	4.35	5.24	3.29	4.45	3.88	2.45	1.82	1.91	2.36	2.46	2.43	2.45	3.59	7.49	7.49	
5	Capsicum	1 kg	9.91	14.19	9.31	14.94	17.04	15.45	10.23	11.51	9.88	6.21	10.42	17.46	14.51	20.12	19.90	
	MARINE AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS																	
1	Sausages	1 kg	6.71	8.32	8.19	8.19	8.19	8.19	8.26	8.26	8.26	8.26	8.33	8.40	8.33	8.29	8.29	
2	Eggs	1 egg	16.33	16.65	19.63	17.67	17.83	17.33	16.67	17.17	16.79	16.54	16.08	16.08	16.08	16.84	17.30	
3	Tuna	1 kg	11.31	15.39	16.49	17.00	17.00	17.56	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	15.00	15.64	
4	Octopus	1 kg	15.84	19.69	17.64	20.25	17.27	15.29	14.89	16.11	18.90	26.29	22.24	19.71	17.14	14.20	13.57	
5	Cockles (to'o)	1 kg	4.39	5.12	5.21	6.86	7.01	5.81	6.12	6.24	6.07	7.69	5.20	4.53	4.59	5.02	5.08	
6	Stringed fish (Mixed)	1 kg	8.40	8.54	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.65	9.32	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	
	TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND KAVA																	
1	Kava	1 kg	124.38	146.04	121.25	115.00	115.00	112.50	105.00	100.00	100.00	92.50	90.00	72.50	70.00	70.00	70.00	

	Table 7: Monthly average price of selected imported items																TONGA SDT:23-402			
			Annual																	
		Unit														Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	Annual change %	
	FOOD																			
	Fruits and Vegetables																			
1	Onions	1 kg	3.35	3.11	3.25	3.14	3.11	3.20	2.98	3.08	3.08	3.08	3.16	3.23	3.37	3.39	3.09	3.09	-1.6%	
2	Apples	1 kg	8.59	7.81	8.11	5.54	5.17	5.20	5.25	5.25	5.54	5.34	5.50	5.50	5.37	5.37	5.13	5.37	-3.1%	
3	Oranges	1 kg	10.21	9.74	9.41	9.24	8.31	8.41	8.46	8.46	7.67	7.77	7.77	7.77	8.02	8.02	8.05	8.15	-11.7%	
	Meats, Fish & Poultry																			
1	Mutton Flaps	1 kg	12.00	11.49	14.45	15.61	15.65	15.78	15.88	15.92	16.11	15.95	16.44	16.25	16.61	16.95	17.69	17.97	15.1%	
2	Chicken Legs	1 kg	3.45	3.35	3.97	3.45	3.80	4.05	4.38	4.48	4.27	3.37	2.89	2.91	2.86	3.18	3.51	3.51	1.7%	
3	Turkey tail	1 kg	5.31	5.05	5.90	9.58	9.61	9.80	10.11	9.99	9.99	9.99	10.11	9.36	9.39	9.24	8.90	8.91	-6.9%	
	Other Food																			
1	Flour	1 kg	1.70	1.72	1.74	1.78	1.77	1.78	1.78	1.79	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.87	1.87	5.3%	
2	Sugar	1 kg	1.94	2.18	2.56	1.78	1.78	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.79	1.82	1.88	1.95	9.6%	
	TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND KAVA																			
	Торассо																			
1	Pall Mall	Packet	12.64	14.03	17.71	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.29	19.43	0.7%	
	TRANSPORTATION																			
	Private Transportation																			
1	Petrol	litre	2.36	2.22	2.51	2.76	2.79	2.68	2.65	2.70	2.75	2.80	2.82	2.82	2.77	2.68	2.55	2.18	-21.0%	
2	Diesel	litre	2.32	2.17	2.47	2.86	2.85	2.79	2.75	2.78	2.82	2.85	2.84	2.86	2.86	2.74	2.58	2.20	-23.1%	

### 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 <u>COICOP</u> 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.

Division Code	Division Descr	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%
	Furnishings, household equipment and routine		
05	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%

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

#### **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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