



KINGDOM OF TONGA

# Consumer Price Index

## Statistical Bulletin DECEMBER 2020



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Price: TOP 2.50

## STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR DECEMBER 2020

(Base Period: September 2018 = 100.0)

**Consumer Price Index for December 2020 increased by 1.3%**  
**With an Annual inflation Rate of 0.3% .**

*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 **December 2020** increased by **1.3** from **99.7** in the previous month to **100.9**. Over the previous two months, the index for all items increased by **0.3%** in **November 2020** and decreased by **0.1%** in **October 2020**.
2. When comparing the **local and imported** indices for **December 2020** to the previous month, Local index increased by **2.1%** and import index also increased by **0.6%**.
3. The **annual rate of inflation for December 2020** was **0.3%** compared to **0.8% deflation** in previous month. This is the first **Inflation** since **June 2020**. The **annual inflation** for the same month of previous year, **December 2019**, was **1.2% inflation**.
4. When comparing the **annual change** in the **local and imported indices** for **December 2020**, the local index recorded a decrease by **0.7%** and import index increased by **1.2%**.

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

**A. FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES 2.0%**

**Food Group** recorded an increase towards the index position of **December 2020**. This was due to increase in price of some local and imported items such as **suckling pigs, octopus, cockle pipis, tomatoes, taro leaves, turkey tails, taro wetland, taro leaves, h/cabbage and chicken wings** that increased throughout the month.

**B. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO AND KAVA 0.2%**

Price of items in this group recorded an increase due to increase in price of **imported beer** compared to the previous month.

**C. HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY AND GAS 3.5%**

Price of items in this group recorded a significant increase due to increase in price of **electricity, Gas and timber** compared to the previous month.

**D. FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE 0.3%**

Although there were price changes in this group during the month, the overall change remains an increase towards the index position of **December 2020**, due to increase in price of some items compared to the previous month.

**E. TRANSPORT**

**0.2%**

Although there were price changes in this group during the month, the overall change remains an increase towards the index position of **December 2020** due to increase in price of *fuel* compared to the previous month.

**F. MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES**

**0.5%**

Although there were price changes in this group during the month, the overall change remains an increase towards the index position of **December 2020** due to increase in price of some items compared to the previous month.

- *The remaining six groups recorded no change in price during the month of December 2020.*



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**Sione F Lolohea**

**Assistant Government Statistician**

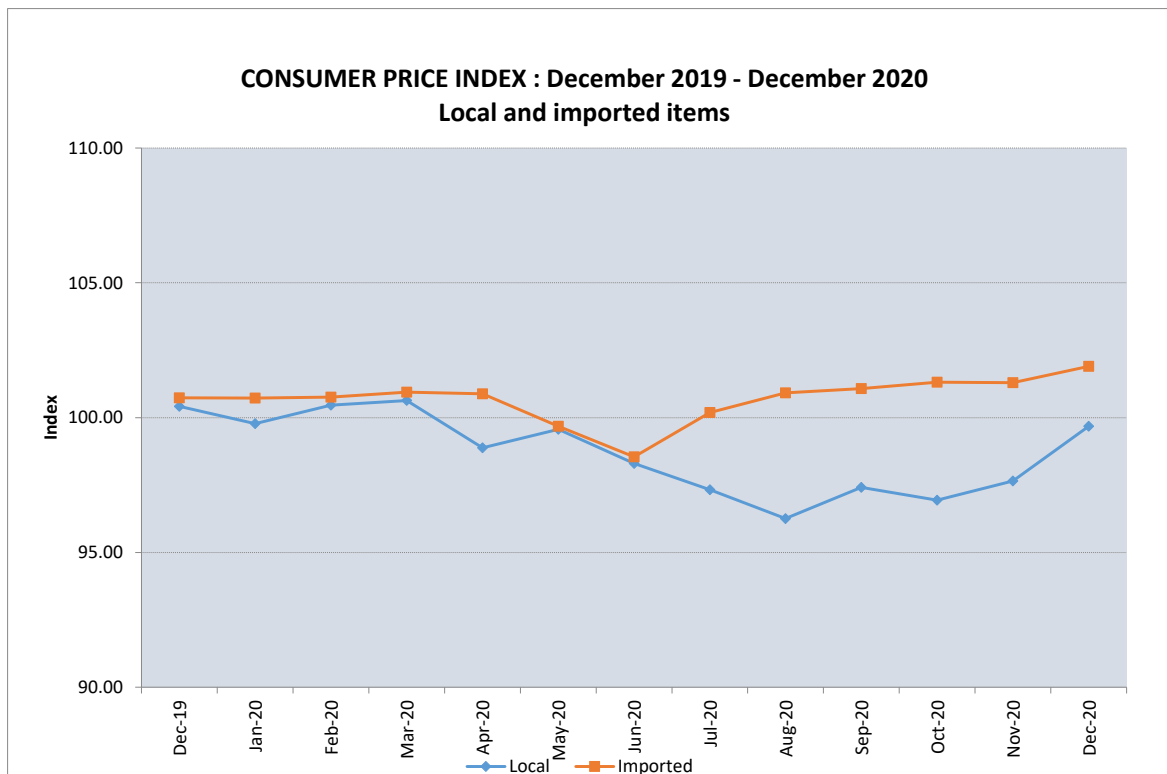


Fig 1: Graphical representation of Consumer Price Index for Total, Local and Imported Components

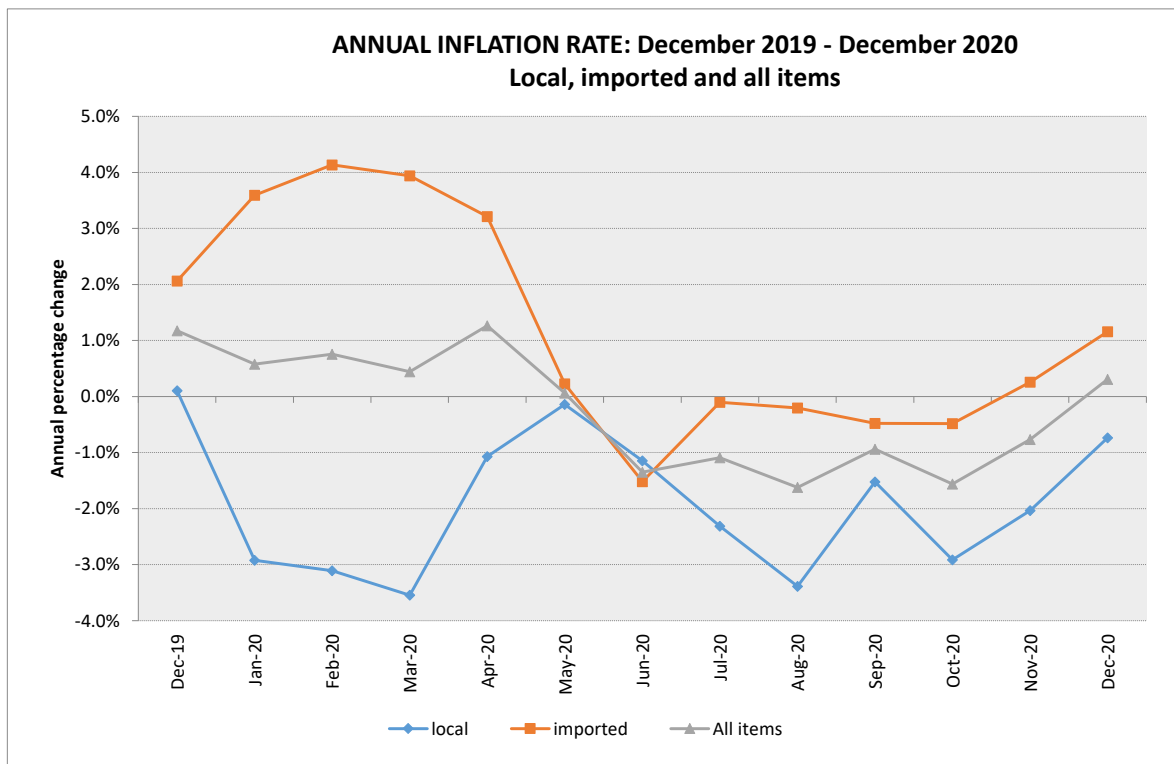
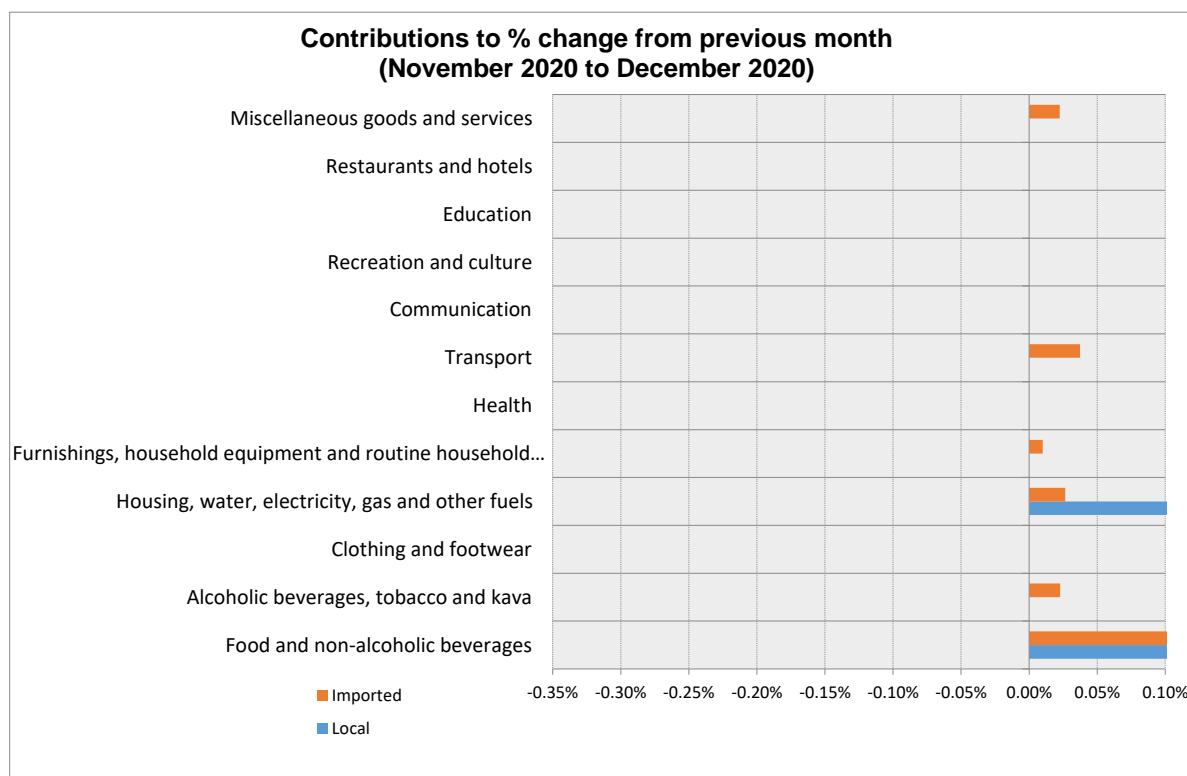


Fig 2: Graphical representation of Annual Inflation rate (%) for Local, Imported and All Items as measured by Consumer Price Index (CPI)

**Fig 3: Contribution to % change from previous month, All groups  
November 2020 to December 2020 .**

| Group  | Local        | Imported     | Total       |
|--|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Food and non-alcoholic beverages                       | 0.60%        | 0.22%        | 0.82%       |
| Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava                  | 0.00%        | 0.02%        | 0.02%       |
| Clothing and footwear                                  | 0.00%        | 0.00%        | 0.00%       |
| Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels       | 0.31%        | 0.03%        | 0.34%       |
| Furnishings, household equipment and routine household | 0.00%        | 0.01%        | 0.01%       |
| Health   | 0.00%        | 0.00%        | 0.00%       |
| Transport  | 0.00%        | 0.04%        | 0.04%       |
| 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%       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>0.92%</b> | <b>0.34%</b> | <b>1.3%</b> |



**Fig 4: Contribution to % change from last year, All groups  
December 2019 to December 2020.**

|  | Local        | Imported    | Total       |
|--|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Food and non-alcoholic beverages                                   | 0.2%         | 1.3%        | 1.51%       |
| Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava                              | 0.2%         | 0.4%        | 0.60%       |
| Clothing and footwear  | 0.0%         | 0.2%        | 0.17%       |
| Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels                   | -0.7%        | -0.1%       | -0.75%      |
| Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance | 0.0%         | 0.1%        | 0.13%       |
| Health   | 0.0%         | 0.0%        | 0.00%       |
| Transport  | 0.0%         | -1.3%       | -1.33%      |
| Communication  | -0.1%        | -           | -0.09%      |
| Recreation and culture   | -            | 0.0%        | 0.00%       |
| Education  | 0.0%         | -           | 0.01%       |
| Restaurants and hotels   | b            | -           | 0.00%       |
| Miscellaneous goods and services                                   | 0.0%         | 0.1%        | 0.07%       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>-0.3%</b> | <b>0.6%</b> | <b>0.3%</b> |

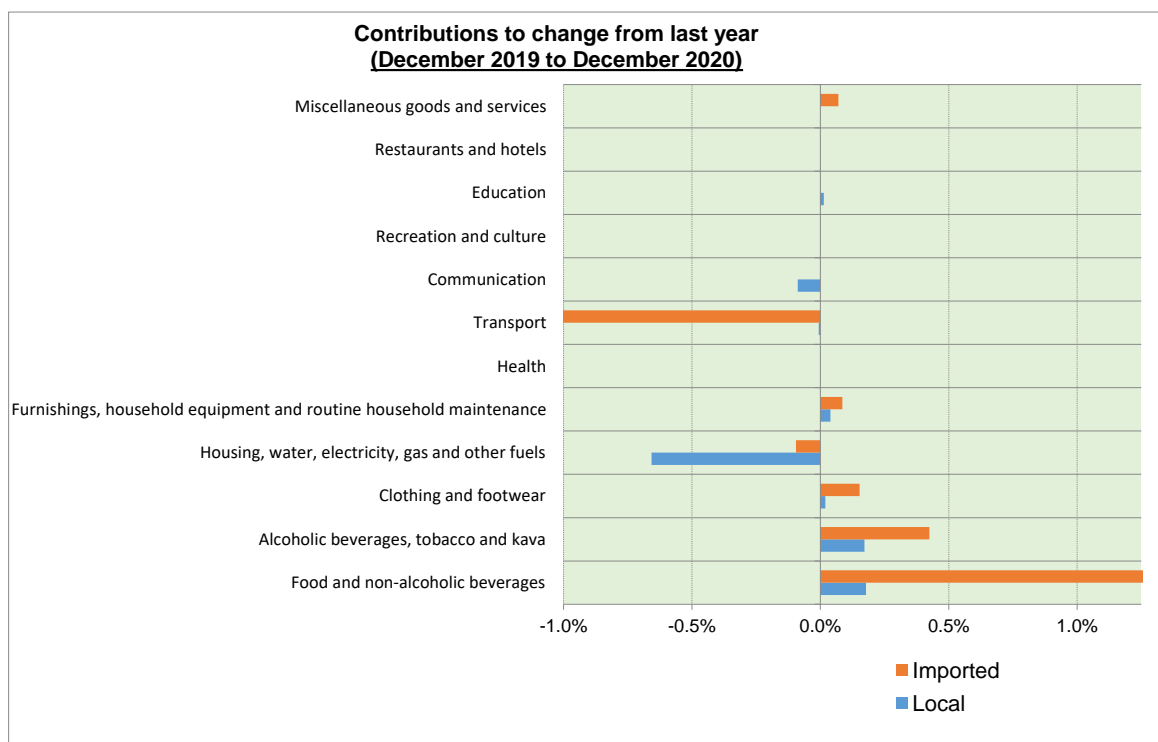


Table 1: Consumer Price Index by major groups

December 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 | Health      | Transport    | Communication | Recreation and culture | Education   | Restaurants and hotels | Miscellaneous goods and services |
|---|-------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------|--------------|---------------|------------------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Weight</b>   | <b>100%</b> | <b>39.8%</b>                     | <b>11.6%</b>                          | <b>2.1%</b>           | <b>10.8%</b>                        | <b>3.2%</b>                                    | <b>0.3%</b> | <b>16.4%</b> | <b>5.2%</b>   | <b>1.1%</b>            | <b>2.2%</b> | <b>3.1%</b>            | <b>4.2%</b>                      |
| <b>2019</b> 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  | 100.4       | 100.7                            | 96.6                                  | 103.9                 | 100.4                               | 102.1  | 100.0       | 99.4         | 101.6         | 103.6                  | 104.2       | 108.2                  | 99.7                             |
| December  | 100.6       | 101.4                            | 95.1                                  | 104.3                 | 100.8                               | 100.5  | 100.0       | 99.7         | 101.6         | 103.6                  | 104.2       | 108.2                  | 99.8                             |
| <b>2020</b> January   | 100.3       | 100.5                            | 95.5                                  | 105.5                 | 100.5                               | 100.5  | 100.0       | 99.7         | 101.6         | 103.6                  | 104.2       | 108.2                  | 99.9                             |
| February  | 100.6       | 101.6                            | 94.7                                  | 106.1                 | 100.6                               | 100.2  | 100.0       | 99.6         | 101.6         | 103.6                  | 104.8       | 108.2                  | 100.0                            |
| March   | 100.8       | 102.3                            | 94.7                                  | 106.1                 | 102.6                               | 100.3  | 100.0       | 97.4         | 101.6         | 103.6                  | 104.8       | 108.2                  | 100.8                            |
| April   | 100.0       | 102.8                            | 93.9                                  | 106.5                 | 98.9                                | 102.2  | 100.0       | 94.7         | 99.9          | 103.6                  | 104.8       | 108.2                  | 99.7                             |
| 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                            |
| June  | 98.4        | 102.6                            | 99.4                                  | 109.1                 | 96.9                                | 103.3  | 100.0       | 82.3         | 99.9          | 103.6                  | 104.8       | 108.2                  | 100.3                            |
| July  | 98.9        | 103.5                            | 100.3                                 | 109.1                 | 89.7                                | 102.5  | 100.0       | 87.2         | 99.9          | 103.6                  | 104.8       | 108.2                  | 100.6                            |
| August  | 98.8        | 102.1                            | 100.3                                 | 110.5                 | 89.2                                | 102.5  | 100.0       | 90.2         | 99.9          | 103.6                  | 104.8       | 108.2                  | 100.8                            |
| September   | 99.4        | 102.9                            | 100.4                                 | 110.5                 | 89.2                                | 102.7  | 100.0       | 91.8         | 99.9          | 103.6                  | 104.8       | 108.2                  | 100.8                            |
| October   | 99.3        | 102.8                            | 100.0                                 | 112.6                 | 89.1                                | 103.4  | 100.0       | 91.6         | 99.9          | 103.6                  | 104.8       | 108.2                  | 100.8                            |
| November  | 99.7        | 103.2                            | 100.1                                 | 112.6                 | 90.6                                | 104.1  | 100.0       | 91.3         | 99.9          | 103.6                  | 104.8       | 108.2                  | 100.9                            |
| December  | 100.9       | 105.2                            | 100.3                                 | 112.6                 | 93.8                                | 104.4  | 100.0       | 91.5         | 99.9          | 103.6                  | 104.8       | 108.2                  | 101.4                            |
| Percentage change between <b>October 2020 and November 2020.</b>  | <b>1.3</b>  | <b>2.0</b>                       | <b>0.2</b>                            | <b>0.0</b>            | <b>3.5</b>                          | <b>0.3</b>                                     | <b>0.0</b>  | <b>0.2</b>   | <b>0.0</b>    | <b>0.0</b>             | <b>0.0</b>  | <b>0.0</b>             | <b>0.5</b>                       |
| Percentage change between <b>November 2019 and November 2020.</b> | <b>0.3</b>  | <b>3.8</b>                       | <b>5.4</b>                            | <b>8.0</b>            | <b>-6.9</b>                         | <b>3.9</b>                                     | <b>0.0</b>  | <b>-8.2</b>  | <b>-1.7</b>   | <b>0.0</b>             | <b>0.6</b>  | <b>0.0</b>             | <b>1.7</b>                       |

**Table 2: Consumer Price Index and annual inflation rate**  
(Base Period: September 2018=100.0)  
**December 2020**

| Year/month          | Local | Import | All items | Monthly change for all items (%) | Annual inflation rate for period (%) | Average index for year | Average annual inflation rate (%) |
|---------------------|-------|--------|-----------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>2018</b> 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>            | <u>5.3</u>                        |
| 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                                  | <u>98.9</u>            | <u>5.1</u>                        |
| <b>2019</b> 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>           | <u>4.0</u>                        |
| 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>                        |
| <b>2020</b> 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                                  |                        |                                   |
| June                | 98.3  | 98.5   | 98.4      | -1.2                             | -1.4                                 | <u>100.2</u>           | <u>0.2</u>                        |
| July                | 97.3  | 100.2  | 98.9      | 0.5                              | -1.1                                 |                        |                                   |
| August              | 96.3  | 100.9  | 98.8      | -0.1                             | -1.6                                 |                        |                                   |
| September           | 97.4  | 101.1  | 99.4      | 0.6                              | -0.9                                 |                        |                                   |
| October             | 96.9  | 101.3  | 99.3      | -0.1                             | -1.6                                 |                        |                                   |
| November            | 97.6  | 101.3  | 99.7      | 0.3                              | -0.8                                 |                        |                                   |
| December            | 99.7  | 101.9  | 100.9     | 1.3                              | 0.3                                  | <u>99.7</u>            | <u>-0.3</u>                       |



**Table 3: Consumer Price Index with local and imported components**  
Percentage change from previous month  
(Base Period: September 2018=100.0)  
December 2020

|  | Weights      |              |              | December 2020 |              |              | November 2020 |              |              | % Change    |             |             |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | Local        | Imported     | Total        | Local         | Imported     | Total        | Local         | Imported     | Total        | Local       | Imported    | Total       |
| <b>A. Food and non-alcoholic beverages</b>                         | <b>15.2%</b> | <b>24.6%</b> | <b>39.8%</b> | <b>102.3</b>  | <b>107.1</b> | <b>105.2</b> | <b>98.3</b>   | <b>106.2</b> | <b>103.2</b> | <b>4.0%</b> | <b>0.8%</b> | <b>2.0%</b> |
| Food   | 14.6%        | 23.2%        | 37.8%        | 102.4         | 107.5        | 105.5        | 98.3          | 106.5        | 103.3        | 4.2%        | 0.9%        | 2.1%        |
| Non- alcoholic beverages   | 0.6%         | 1.4%         | 2.0%         | 100.0         | 100.1        | 100.1        | 100.0         | 100.4        | 100.3        | 0.0%        | -0.3%       | -0.2%       |
| <b>B. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava</b>                    | <b>6.7%</b>  | <b>4.9%</b>  | <b>11.6%</b> | <b>92.6</b>   | <b>110.9</b> | <b>100.3</b> | <b>92.6</b>   | <b>110.4</b> | <b>100.1</b> | <b>0.0%</b> | <b>0.4%</b> | <b>0.2%</b> |
| Alcoholic beverages  | 0.9%         | 3.2%         | 4.1%         | 106.9         | 106.0        | 106.2        | 106.9         | 104.5        | 105.0        | 0.0%        | 1.4%        | 1.1%        |
| Tobacco  | 4.1%         | 1.7%         | 5.8%         | 108.3         | 120.2        | 111.8        | 108.3         | 121.7        | 112.2        | 0.0%        | -1.2%       | -0.4%       |
| Kava   | 1.7%         | 0.0%         | 1.7%         | 48.4          | -            | 48.4         | 48.4          | -            | 48.4         | 0.0%        | -           | 0.0%        |
| <b>C. Clothing and footwear</b>                                    | <b>0.4%</b>  | <b>1.7%</b>  | <b>2.1%</b>  | <b>114.7</b>  | <b>112.2</b> | <b>112.6</b> | <b>114.7</b>  | <b>112.2</b> | <b>112.6</b> | <b>0.0%</b> | <b>0.0%</b> | <b>0.0%</b> |
| Clothing   | 0.4%         | 1.5%         | 1.8%         | 114.7         | 113.2        | 113.5        | 114.7         | 113.2        | 113.5        | 0.0%        | 0.0%        | 0.0%        |
| Footwear   | 0.0%         | 0.3%         | 0.3%         | -             | 106.7        | 106.7        | -             | 106.7        | 106.7        | -           | 0.0%        | 0.0%        |
| <b>D. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels</b>         | <b>7.2%</b>  | <b>3.6%</b>  | <b>10.8%</b> | <b>92.4</b>   | <b>96.5</b>  | <b>93.8</b>  | <b>88.1</b>   | <b>95.8</b>  | <b>90.6</b>  | <b>4.9%</b> | <b>0.8%</b> | <b>3.5%</b> |
| Maintenance and repair of the dwelling                             | 0.2%         | 1.8%         | 2.0%         | 118.1         | 103.3        | 105.0        | 118.1         | 103.4        | 105.0        | 0.0%        | -0.1%       | -0.1%       |
| 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%         | 84.9          | 90.0         | 86.3         | 78.6          | 88.5         | 81.3         | 8.0%        | 1.7%        | 6.2%        |
| <b>E. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household n</b> | <b>0.8%</b>  | <b>2.4%</b>  | <b>3.2%</b>  | <b>105.6</b>  | <b>104.0</b> | <b>104.4</b> | <b>105.6</b>  | <b>103.6</b> | <b>104.1</b> | <b>0.0%</b> | <b>0.4%</b> | <b>0.3%</b> |
| Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings       | 0.5%         | 0.0%         | 0.5%         | 107.6         | -            | 107.6        | 107.6         | -            | 107.6        | 0.0%        | -           | 0.0%        |
| Household appliances   | 0.0%         | 0.7%         | 0.7%         | -             | 97.6         | 97.6         | -             | 97.6         | 97.6         | -           | 0.0%        | 0.0%        |
| Tools and equipment for house and garden                           | 0.0%         | 0.2%         | 0.2%         | -             | 106.2        | 106.2        | -             | 101.4        | 101.4        | -           | 4.7%        | 4.7%        |
| Goods and services for routine household maintenance               | 0.3%         | 1.5%         | 1.8%         | 102.3         | 106.6        | 105.9        | 102.3         | 106.5        | 105.8        | 0.0%        | 0.1%        | 0.1%        |
| <b>F. Health</b>   | <b>0.2%</b>  | <b>0.2%</b>  | <b>0.3%</b>  | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>0.0%</b> | <b>0.0%</b> | <b>0.0%</b> |
| 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%        |
| <b>G. Transport</b>  | <b>3.4%</b>  | <b>13.0%</b> | <b>16.4%</b> | <b>102.6</b>  | <b>88.5</b>  | <b>91.5</b>  | <b>102.6</b>  | <b>88.3</b>  | <b>91.3</b>  | <b>0.0%</b> | <b>0.3%</b> | <b>0.2%</b> |
| Operation of personal transport equipment                          | 1.3%         | 9.9%         | 11.2%        | 103.5         | 84.2         | 86.4         | 103.5         | 83.8         | 86.0         | 0.0%        | 0.4%        | 0.4%        |
| Transport services   | 2.2%         | 3.1%         | 5.3%         | 102.1         | 102.6        | 102.4        | 102.1         | 102.6        | 102.4        | 0.0%        | 0.0%        | 0.0%        |
| <b>H. Communication</b>  | <b>5.2%</b>  | <b>0.0%</b>  | <b>5.2%</b>  | <b>99.9</b>   | <b>-</b>     | <b>99.9</b>  | <b>99.9</b>   | <b>-</b>     | <b>99.9</b>  | <b>0.0%</b> | <b>-</b>    | <b>0.0%</b> |
| Telephone and telefax services                                     | 5.2%         | 0.0%         | 5.2%         | 99.9          | -            | 99.9         | 99.9          | -            | 99.9         | 0.0%        | -           | 0.0%        |
| <b>I. Recreation and culture</b>                                   | <b>0.0%</b>  | <b>1.1%</b>  | <b>1.1%</b>  | <b>-</b>      | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>-</b>      | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>-</b>    | <b>0.0%</b> | <b>0.0%</b> |
| Newspapers, books and stationery                                   | 0.0%         | 1.1%         | 1.1%         | -             | 103.6        | 103.6        | -             | 103.6        | 103.6        | -           | 0.0%        | 0.0%        |
| <b>J. Education</b>  | <b>2.2%</b>  | <b>0.0%</b>  | <b>2.2%</b>  | <b>104.8</b>  | <b>-</b>     | <b>104.8</b> | <b>104.8</b>  | <b>-</b>     | <b>104.8</b> | <b>0.0%</b> | <b>-</b>    | <b>0.0%</b> |
| Pre-primary and primary education                                  | 0.3%         | 0.0%         | 0.3%         | 100.1         | -            | 100.1        | 100.1         | 99.3         | 100.1        | 0.0%        | -           | 0.0%        |
| 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%        | -           | 0.0%        |
| <b>K. Restaurants and hotels</b>                                   | <b>3.1%</b>  | <b>0.0%</b>  | <b>3.1%</b>  | <b>108.2</b>  | <b>-</b>     | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b>  | <b>-</b>     | <b>108.2</b> | <b>0.0%</b> | <b>-</b>    | <b>0.0%</b> |
| Catering services  | 3.1%         | 0.0%         | 3.1%         | 108.2         | -            | 108.2        | 108.2         | -            | 108.2        | 0.0%        | -           | 0.0%        |
| <b>L. Miscellaneous goods and services</b>                         | <b>0.5%</b>  | <b>3.7%</b>  | <b>4.2%</b>  | <b>103.3</b>  | <b>101.2</b> | <b>101.4</b> | <b>103.3</b>  | <b>100.6</b> | <b>100.9</b> | <b>0.0%</b> | <b>0.6%</b> | <b>0.5%</b> |
| Personal care  | 0.0%         | 3.7%         | 3.7%         | -             | 101.2        | 101.2        | -             | 100.6        | 100.6        | -           | 0.6%        | 0.6%        |
| 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        | 104.2         | -            | 104.2        | 0.0%        | -           | 0.0%        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>44.9%</b> | <b>55.1%</b> | <b>100%</b>  | <b>99.7</b>   | <b>101.9</b> | <b>100.9</b> | <b>97.6</b>   | <b>101.3</b> | <b>99.7</b>  | <b>2.1%</b> | <b>0.6%</b> | <b>1.3%</b> |

**Table 4: Consumer Price Index with local and imported components**  
**Percentage change from same month of previous year**  
**(Base Period: September 2018=100.0)**  
**December 2020**

|  | Weights      |              |              | December 2020 |              |              | December 2019 |              |               | % Change    |              |             |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
|  | Local        | Imported     | Total        | Local         | Imported     | Total        | Local         | Imported     | Total         | Local       | Imported     | Total       |
| <b>A. Food and non-alcoholic beverages</b>                                   | <b>15.2%</b> | <b>24.6%</b> | <b>39.8%</b> | <b>102.3</b>  | <b>107.1</b> | <b>105.2</b> | <b>101.1</b>  | <b>101.6</b> | <b>101.44</b> | <b>1.2</b>  | <b>5.3</b>   | <b>3.8</b>  |
| Food   | 14.6%        | 23.2%        | 37.8%        | 102.4         | 107.5        | 105.5        | 101.1         | 101.7        | 101.5         | 1.2         | 5.7          | 4.0         |
| Non- alcoholic beverages   | 0.6%         | 1.4%         | 2.0%         | 100.0         | 100.1        | 100.1        | 100.0         | 100.3        | 100.2         | 0.0         | -0.1         | -0.1        |
| <b>B. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava</b>                              | <b>6.7%</b>  | <b>4.9%</b>  | <b>11.6%</b> | <b>92.6</b>   | <b>110.9</b> | <b>100.3</b> | <b>90.0</b>   | <b>102.1</b> | <b>95.11</b>  | <b>2.9</b>  | <b>8.6</b>   | <b>5.4</b>  |
| Alcoholic beverages  | 0.9%         | 3.2%         | 4.1%         | 106.9         | 106.0        | 106.2        | 104.2         | 102.9        | 103.1         | 2.6         | 3.0          | 2.9         |
| Tobacco  | 4.1%         | 1.7%         | 5.8%         | 108.3         | 120.2        | 111.8        | 96.3          | 100.8        | 97.6          | 12.5        | 19.3         | 14.5        |
| Kava   | 1.7%         | 0.0%         | 1.7%         | 48.4          | -            | 48.4         | 68.3          | -            | 68.3          | -29.0       | -            | -29.0       |
| <b>C. Clothing and footwear</b>  | <b>0.4%</b>  | <b>1.7%</b>  | <b>2.1%</b>  | <b>114.7</b>  | <b>112.2</b> | <b>112.6</b> | <b>109.0</b>  | <b>103.3</b> | <b>104.28</b> | <b>5.1</b>  | <b>8.6</b>   | <b>8.0</b>  |
| Clothing   | 0.4%         | 1.5%         | 1.8%         | 114.7         | 113.2        | 113.5        | 109.0         | 102.6        | 103.8         | 5.1         | 10.4         | 9.3         |
| Footwear   | 0.0%         | 0.3%         | 0.3%         | -             | 106.7        | 106.7        | -             | 107.2        | 107.2         | -           | -0.5         | -0.5        |
| <b>D. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels</b>                   | <b>7.2%</b>  | <b>3.6%</b>  | <b>10.8%</b> | <b>92.4</b>   | <b>96.5</b>  | <b>93.8</b>  | <b>101.6</b>  | <b>99.2</b>  | <b>100.76</b> | <b>-9.0</b> | <b>-2.7</b>  | <b>-6.9</b> |
| Maintenance and repair of the dwelling                                       | 0.2%         | 1.8%         | 2.0%         | 118.1         | 103.3        | 105.0        | 112.8         | 106.3        | 107.1         | 4.7         | -2.9         | -2.0        |
| 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%         | 84.9          | 90.0         | 86.3         | 98.4          | 92.3         | 96.8          | -13.7       | -2.4         | -10.8       |
| <b>E. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance</b> | <b>0.8%</b>  | <b>2.4%</b>  | <b>3.2%</b>  | <b>105.6</b>  | <b>104.0</b> | <b>104.4</b> | <b>100.9</b>  | <b>100.3</b> | <b>100.47</b> | <b>4.7</b>  | <b>3.7</b>   | <b>3.9</b>  |
| Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings                 | 0.5%         | 0.0%         | 0.5%         | 107.6         | -            | 107.6        | 100.0         | -            | 100.0         | 7.6         | -            | 7.6         |
| Household appliances   | 0.0%         | 0.7%         | 0.7%         | 0.0           | 97.6         | 97.6         | 0.0           | 92.2         | 92.2          | -           | 5.9          | 5.9         |
| Tools and equipment for house and garden                                     | 0.0%         | 0.2%         | 0.2%         | -             | 106.2        | 106.2        | 0.0           | 106.4        | 106.4         | -           | -0.2         | -0.2        |
| Goods and services for routine household maintenance                         | 0.3%         | 1.5%         | 1.8%         | 102.3         | 106.6        | 105.9        | 102.3         | 103.3        | 103.2         | 0.0         | 3.2          | 2.6         |
| <b>F. Health</b>   | <b>0.2%</b>  | <b>0.2%</b>  | <b>0.3%</b>  | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.00</b> | <b>0.0</b>  | <b>0.0</b>   | <b>0.0</b>  |
| Medical products, appliances and equipment                                   | 0.0%         | 0.2%         | 0.2%         | -             | 100.0        | 100.0        | -             | 100.0        | 100.0         | 0.0         | 0.0          | 0.0         |
| Outpatient services  | 0.2%         | 0.0%         | 0.2%         | 100.0         | -            | 100.0        | 100.0         | -            | 100.0         | 0.0         | -            | 0.0         |
| <b>G. Transport</b>  | <b>3.4%</b>  | <b>13.0%</b> | <b>16.4%</b> | <b>102.6</b>  | <b>88.5</b>  | <b>91.5</b>  | <b>102.8</b>  | <b>98.8</b>  | <b>99.67</b>  | <b>-0.2</b> | <b>-10.4</b> | <b>-8.2</b> |
| Operation of personal transport equipment                                    | 1.3%         | 9.9%         | 11.2%        | 103.5         | 84.2         | 86.4         | 102.5         | 98.5         | 98.9          | 1.0         | -14.5        | -12.7       |
| Transport services   | 2.2%         | 3.1%         | 5.3%         | 102.1         | 102.6        | 102.4        | 103.0         | 100.0        | 101.2         | -0.9        | 2.6          | 1.2         |
| <b>H. Communication</b>  | <b>5.2%</b>  | <b>0.0%</b>  | <b>5.2%</b>  | <b>99.9</b>   | <b>-</b>     | <b>99.9</b>  | <b>101.6</b>  | <b>-</b>     | <b>101.58</b> | <b>-1.7</b> | <b>-</b>     | <b>-1.7</b> |
| Telephone and telefax services   | 5.2%         | 0.0%         | 5.2%         | 99.9          | -            | 99.9         | 101.6         | -            | 101.6         | -1.7        | -            | -1.7        |
| <b>I. Recreation and culture</b>   | <b>0.0%</b>  | <b>1.1%</b>  | <b>1.1%</b>  | <b>-</b>      | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>-</b>      | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.55</b> | <b>-</b>    | <b>0.0</b>   | <b>0.0</b>  |
| Newspapers, books and stationery   | 0.0%         | 1.1%         | 1.1%         | -             | 103.6        | 103.6        | -             | 103.6        | 103.6         | -           | 0.0          | 0.0         |
| <b>J. Education</b>  | <b>2.2%</b>  | <b>0.0%</b>  | <b>2.2%</b>  | <b>104.8</b>  | <b>0.0</b>   | <b>104.8</b> | <b>104.2</b>  | <b>0.0</b>   | <b>104.23</b> | <b>0.6</b>  | <b>-</b>     | <b>0.6</b>  |
| Pre-primary and primary education  | 0.3%         | 0.0%         | 0.3%         | 100.1         | -            | 100.1        | 100.1         | 99.3         | 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         |
| <b>K. Restaurants and hotels</b>   | <b>3.1%</b>  | <b>0.0%</b>  | <b>3.1%</b>  | <b>108.2</b>  | <b>-</b>     | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b>  | <b>-</b>     | <b>108.19</b> | <b>0.0</b>  | <b>-</b>     | <b>0.0</b>  |
| Catering services  | 3.1%         | 0.0%         | 3.1%         | 108.2         | -            | 108.2        | 108.2         | -            | 108.2         | 0.0         | -            | 0.0         |
| <b>L. Miscellaneous goods and services</b>                                   | <b>0.5%</b>  | <b>3.7%</b>  | <b>4.2%</b>  | <b>103.3</b>  | <b>101.2</b> | <b>101.4</b> | <b>103.3</b>  | <b>99.3</b>  | <b>99.78</b>  | <b>0.0</b>  | <b>1.9</b>   | <b>1.7</b>  |
| Personal care  | 0.0%         | 3.7%         | 3.7%         | -             | 101.2        | 101.2        | -             | 99.3         | 99.3          | -           | 1.9          | 1.9         |
| 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        | 104.2         | -            | 104.2         | 0.0         | -            | 0.0         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>44.9%</b> | <b>55.1%</b> | <b>100%</b>  | <b>99.7</b>   | <b>101.9</b> | <b>100.9</b> | <b>100.4</b>  | <b>100.7</b> | <b>100.59</b> | <b>-0.7</b> | <b>1.2</b>   | <b>0.3</b>  |

| Table 5: Consumer Price Index<br>Groups and subgroups - index numbers<br>(Base Period: September 2018 = 100.0)<br>December 2020 |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              | TONGA<br>SDT:23-409 |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 43922.0   | Annual       |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |                     |              |
|   | 2018         | Nov 19       | Dec 19       | Jan 20       | Feb 20       | Mar 20       | Apr 20       | May 20       | Jun 20       | Jul 20       | Aug 20       | Sep 20       | Oct 20       | Nov 20              | Dec 20       |
| <b>A. Food and non-alcoholic beverages</b>  | <b>99.2</b>  | <b>100.7</b> | <b>101.4</b> | <b>100.5</b> | <b>101.6</b> | <b>102.3</b> | <b>102.8</b> | <b>104.0</b> | <b>102.6</b> | <b>103.5</b> | <b>102.1</b> | <b>102.9</b> | <b>102.8</b> | <b>103.2</b>        | <b>105.2</b> |
| Food  | 99.1         | 100.7        | 101.5        | 100.5        | 101.7        | 102.4        | 102.9        | 104.2        | 102.8        | 103.7        | 102.2        | 103.1        | 102.9        | 103.3               | 105.5        |
| Non- alcoholic beverages  | 99.5         | 100.3        | 100.2        | 100.2        | 100.4        | 100.4        | 100.6        | 100.0        | 100.0        | 100.0        | 99.8         | 99.8         | 100.3        | 100.3               | 100.1        |
| <b>B. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava</b>   | <b>93.3</b>  | <b>96.6</b>  | <b>95.1</b>  | <b>95.5</b>  | <b>94.7</b>  | <b>94.7</b>  | <b>93.9</b>  | <b>95.5</b>  | <b>99.4</b>  | <b>100.3</b> | <b>100.3</b> | <b>100.4</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.1</b>        | <b>100.3</b> |
| Alcoholic beverages   | 97.6         | 103.4        | 103.1        | 103.7        | 103.7        | 103.7        | 104.2        | 105.8        | 105.8        | 105.8        | 106.1        | 104.7        | 105.0        | 106.2               |              |
| Tobacco   | 88.4         | 99.1         | 97.6         | 98.7         | 99.9         | 100.5        | 98.7         | 100.7        | 108.5        | 112.2        | 112.2        | 112.2        | 112.2        | 111.8               |              |
| Kava  | 99.2         | 72.7         | 68.3         | 66.2         | 56.4         | 54.3         | 54.3         | 54.3         | 54.3         | 48.4         | 48.4         | 48.4         | 48.4         | 48.4                |              |
| <b>C. Clothing and footwear</b>   | <b>99.0</b>  | <b>103.9</b> | <b>104.3</b> | <b>105.5</b> | <b>106.1</b> | <b>106.1</b> | <b>106.5</b> | <b>108.8</b> | <b>109.1</b> | <b>109.1</b> | <b>110.5</b> | <b>110.5</b> | <b>112.6</b> | <b>112.6</b>        | <b>112.6</b> |
| Clothing  | 98.8         | 103.4        | 103.8        | 105.2        | 106.0        | 106.0        | 106.5        | 109.2        | 109.5        | 109.5        | 111.0        | 111.0        | 113.5        | 113.5               | 113.5        |
| Footwear  | 100.4        | 107.2        | 107.2        | 107.4        | 107.4        | 107.4        | 106.7        | 106.7        | 106.7        | 106.7        | 106.7        | 106.7        | 106.7        | 106.7               | 106.7        |
| <b>D. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels</b>  | <b>99.8</b>  | <b>100.4</b> | <b>100.8</b> | <b>100.5</b> | <b>100.6</b> | <b>102.6</b> | <b>98.9</b>  | <b>99.2</b>  | <b>96.9</b>  | <b>89.7</b>  | <b>89.2</b>  | <b>89.2</b>  | <b>89.1</b>  | <b>90.6</b>         | <b>93.8</b>  |
| Maintenance and repair of the dwelling  | 100.5        | 109.2        | 107.1        | 107.1        | 107.1        | 107.1        | 108.3        | 109.9        | 107.0        | 104.9        | 105.0        | 105.0        | 105.0        | 105.0               | 105.0        |
| Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dw  | 100.0        | 108.1        | 108.1        | 108.1        | 108.1        | 108.1        | 108.1        | 108.1        | 108.1        | 108.1        | 108.1        | 108.1        | 108.1        | 108.1               | 108.1        |
| Electricity, gas and other fuels  | 99.5         | 95.6         | 96.8         | 96.4         | 96.5         | 99.7         | 93.5         | 93.5         | 90.6         | 79.9         | 79.0         | 79.0         | 78.8         | 81.3                | 86.3         |
| <b>E. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household main</b>   | <b>99.4</b>  | <b>102.1</b> | <b>100.5</b> | <b>100.5</b> | <b>100.2</b> | <b>100.3</b> | <b>102.2</b> | <b>103.3</b> | <b>103.3</b> | <b>102.5</b> | <b>102.5</b> | <b>102.7</b> | <b>103.4</b> | <b>104.1</b>        | <b>104.4</b> |
| Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings  | 100.0        | 100.0        | 100.0        | 100.0        | 100.8        | 100.8        | 100.8        | 105.5        | 105.5        | 105.5        | 105.5        | 105.5        | 105.5        | 107.6               | 107.6        |
| <b>Household appliances</b>   | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.2</b> | <b>92.2</b>  | <b>92.2</b>  | <b>92.2</b>  | <b>92.2</b>  | <b>94.1</b>  | <b>94.8</b>  | <b>94.8</b>  | <b>94.8</b>  | <b>94.8</b>  | <b>94.8</b>  | <b>97.6</b>  | <b>97.6</b>         | <b>97.6</b>  |
| Tools and equipment for house and garden  | 96.8         | 104.9        | 106.4        | 106.4        | 106.4        | 103.3        | 101.4        | 101.4        | 101.4        | 101.4        | 101.4        | 101.4        | 101.4        | 106.2               |              |
| Goods and services for routine household maintenance  | 99.2         | 103.2        | 103.2        | 103.2        | 102.4        | 103.0        | 105.6        | 106.0        | 106.0        | 104.7        | 104.7        | 105.0        | 105.1        | 105.8               | 105.9        |
| <b>F. Health</b>  | <b>101.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.0</b>        | <b>100.0</b> |
| 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               | 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               | 100.0        |
| <b>G. Transport</b>   | <b>98.5</b>  | <b>99.4</b>  | <b>99.7</b>  | <b>99.7</b>  | <b>99.6</b>  | <b>97.4</b>  | <b>94.7</b>  | <b>87.6</b>  | <b>82.3</b>  | <b>87.2</b>  | <b>90.2</b>  | <b>91.8</b>  | <b>91.6</b>  | <b>91.3</b>         | <b>91.5</b>  |
| Operation of personal transport equipment   | 97.7         | 98.6         | 98.9         | 99.0         | 98.1         | 94.9         | 90.9         | 80.4         | 72.7         | 79.8         | 84.3         | 86.8         | 86.6         | 86.0                | 86.4         |
| Transport services  | 100.0        | 101.2        | 101.2        | 101.2        | 102.8        | 102.8        | 102.8        | 102.8        | 102.8        | 102.8        | 102.8        | 102.4        | 102.4        | 102.4               | 102.4        |
| <b>H. Communication</b>   | <b>106.6</b> | <b>101.6</b> | <b>101.6</b> | <b>101.6</b> | <b>101.6</b> | <b>101.6</b> | <b>99.9</b>  | <b>99.9</b>  | <b>99.9</b>  | <b>99.9</b>  | <b>99.9</b>  | <b>99.9</b>  | <b>99.9</b>  | <b>99.9</b>         | <b>99.9</b>  |
| Telephone and telefax services  | 106.6        | 101.6        | 101.6        | 101.6        | 101.6        | 101.6        | 99.9         | 99.9         | 99.9         | 99.9         | 99.9         | 99.9         | 99.9         | 99.9                | 99.9         |
| <b>I. Recreation and culture</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b> | <b>103.6</b>        | <b>103.6</b> |
| 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               | 103.6        |
| <b>J. Education</b>   | <b>100.0</b> | <b>104.2</b> | <b>104.2</b> | <b>104.2</b> | <b>104.8</b> | <b>104.8</b> | <b>104.8</b> | <b>104.8</b> | <b>104.8</b> | <b>104.8</b> | <b>104.8</b> | <b>104.8</b> | <b>104.8</b> | <b>104.8</b>        | <b>104.8</b> |
| 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               | 100.1        |
| Secondary education   | 100.0        | 106.2        | 106.2        | 106.2        | 107.0        | 107.0        | 107.0        | 107.0        | 107.0        | 107.0        | 107.0        | 107.0        | 107.0        | 107.0               | 107.0        |
| Tertiary education  | 99.4         | 103.4        | 103.4        | 103.4        | 103.9        | 103.9        | 103.9        | 103.9        | 103.9        | 103.9        | 103.9        | 103.9        | 103.9        | 103.9               | 103.9        |
| <b>K. Restaurants and hotels</b>  | <b>100.3</b> | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b> | <b>108.2</b>        | <b>108.2</b> |
| 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               | 108.2        |
| <b>L. Miscellaneous goods and services</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>99.7</b>  | <b>99.8</b>  | <b>99.9</b>  | <b>100.0</b> | <b>100.8</b> | <b>99.7</b>  | <b>100.2</b> | <b>100.3</b> | <b>100.6</b> | <b>100.8</b> | <b>100.8</b> | <b>100.8</b> | <b>100.9</b>        | <b>101.4</b> |
| Personal care   | 100.0        | 99.2         | 99.3         | 99.5         | 99.5         | 100.4        | 99.2         | 99.8         | 99.9         | 100.2        | 100.4        | 100.4        | 100.5        | 100.6               | 101.2        |
| 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               | 100.0        |
| Other Services n.e.c.   | 100.0        | 104.2        | 104.2        | 104.2        | 104.2        | 104.2        | 104.2        | 104.2        | 104.2        | 104.2        | 104.2        | 104.2        | 104.2        | 104.2               | 104.2        |
| <b>ALL GROUPS</b>   | <b>98.9</b>  | <b>100.4</b> | <b>100.6</b> | <b>100.3</b> | <b>100.6</b> | <b>100.8</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>99.6</b>  | <b>98.4</b>  | <b>98.9</b>  | <b>98.8</b>  | <b>99.4</b>  | <b>99.3</b>  | <b>99.7</b>         | <b>100.9</b> |

Table 6: Monthly average price of selected local items

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|  | Unit                  | 2017  | 2018   | Dec 19 | Jan 20 | Feb 20 | Mar 20 | Apr 20 | May 20 | Jun 20 | Jul 20 | Aug 20 | Sep 20 | Oct 20 | Nov 20 | Dec 20 |       |
|--|-----------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| <b><u>ROOT CROPS</u></b>                 |                       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |       |
| 1  | Talo - Futuna         | 1 kg  | 1.96   | 1.76   | 1.52   | 1.25   | 1.35   | 1.23   | 1.35   | 1.30   | 1.55   | 1.54   | 1.57   | 1.66   | 1.73   | 1.82   | 1.43  |
| 2  | Talo - Tonga          | 1kg   | 2.45   | 1.82   | 1.88   | 1.34   | 1.28   | 1.30   | 1.49   | 1.49   | 1.74   | 2.05   | 1.88   | 2.34   | 1.99   | 2.34   | 1.79  |
| 3  | Manioke               | 1 kg  | 0.52   | 0.91   | 0.97   | 0.98   | 0.87   | 0.85   | 0.83   | 0.82   | 0.95   | 1.11   | 0.95   | 1.04   | 1.02   | 0.98   | 1.06  |
| 4  | Kumala                | 1 kg  | 2.17   | 2.27   | 1.28   | 1.38   | 1.28   | 1.39   | 1.18   | 1.40   | 1.75   | 2.23   | 2.15   | 2.07   | 2.03   | 2.07   | 1.99  |
| 5  | Yams; early           | 1 kg  | 4.97   | 5.37   | 5.79   | 6.19   | 4.85   | 3.74   | 3.42   | 4.21   | 4.86   | 5.38   | 5.99   | 6.84   | 7.44   | 5.89   | 4.66  |
| 6  | Yams, late            | 1 kg  | 2.87   | 2.98   | 3.07   | 3.07   | 3.07   | 2.86   | 2.94   | 2.67   | 2.55   | 2.50   | 2.79   | 2.37   | 2.37   | 2.37   | 2.37  |
| <b><u>VEGETABLES</u></b>                 |                       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |       |
| 1  | Lu                    | 1 kg  | 7.96   | 5.50   | 6.97   | 5.83   | 4.96   | 7.55   | 5.56   | 4.78   | 4.73   | 5.08   | 3.78   | 4.59   | 4.50   | 5.41   | 6.54  |
| 2  | Tomatoes              | 1 kg  | 8.41   | 7.75   | 5.40   | 5.83   | 15.23  | 15.13  | 15.40  | 15.45  | 11.35  | 6.52   | 5.23   | 3.36   | 3.89   | 2.55   | 4.50  |
| 3  | H/Cabbage             | 1 kg  | 3.50   | 3.05   | 3.74   | 3.00   | 5.57   | 5.54   | 5.54   | 4.85   | 3.04   | 1.71   | 1.35   | 0.90   | 0.88   | 1.85   | 2.39  |
| 4  | Carrots               | 1 kg  | 4.35   | 5.24   | 2.46   | 2.43   | 2.45   | 3.59   | 7.49   | 7.49   | 7.16   | 4.07   | 2.57   | 2.50   | 2.31   | 2.34   | 2.52  |
| 5  | Capsicum              | 1 kg  | 9.91   | 14.19  | 6.21   | 10.42  | 17.46  | 14.51  | 20.12  | 19.90  | 13.07  | 13.95  | 11.68  | 10.85  | 8.04   | 7.90   | 6.59  |
| <b><u>MARINE AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS</u></b> |                       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |       |
| 1  | Sausages              | 1 kg  | 6.71   | 8.32   | 8.26   | 8.33   | 8.40   | 8.33   | 8.29   | 8.29   | 8.29   | 8.67   | 8.67   | 8.67   | 8.67   | 8.67   | 8.33  |
| 2  | Eggs                  | 1 egg | 16.33  | 16.65  | 16.54  | 16.08  | 16.08  | 16.08  | 16.84  | 17.30  | 18.30  | 17.97  | 18.30  | 18.30  | 18.42  | 18.47  | 18.80 |
| 3  | Tuna                  | 1 kg  | 11.31  | 15.39  | 17.00  | 17.00  | 17.00  | 17.00  | 15.00  | 15.64  | 15.00  | 17.00  | 17.00  | 17.00  | 17.00  | 17.00  | 17.00 |
| 4  | Octopus               | 1 kg  | 15.84  | 19.69  | 26.29  | 22.24  | 19.71  | 17.14  | 14.20  | 13.57  | 10.62  | 11.78  | 11.66  | 18.89  | 19.59  | 23.47  | 33.08 |
| 5  | Cockles (to'o)        | 1 kg  | 4.39   | 5.12   | 7.69   | 5.20   | 4.53   | 4.59   | 5.02   | 5.08   | 5.47   | 6.92   | 10.37  | 8.40   | 6.12   | 6.02   | 6.43  |
| 6  | Stringed fish (Mixed) | 1 kg  | 8.40   | 8.54   | 9.32   | 9.00   | 9.00   | 9.00   | 9.00   | 9.00   | 9.49   | 9.00   | 12.00  | 9.65   | 10.00  | 10.00  | 10.00 |
| <b><u>TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND KAVA</u></b>  |                       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |       |
| 1  | Kava                  | 1 kg  | 124.38 | 146.04 | 92.50  | 90.00  | 72.50  | 70.00  | 70.00  | 70.00  | 70.00  | 60.00  | 60.00  | 60.00  | 60.00  | 60.00  | 60.00 |

Table 7: Monthly average price of selected imported items

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|                                  | Unit         | Annual |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |         |        |         |        |        |        | Annual change % |        |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------|--------|
|                                  |              | 2015   | 2016  | 2017  | Nov 19 | Dec 19 | Jan 20 | Feb 20 | Mar 20 | Apr 20 | May 20 | June 20 | July 20 | Aug 20 | Sept 20 | Oct 20 | Nov 20 | Dec 21 |                 |        |
| <b>FOOD</b>                      |              |        |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |         |        |         |        |        |        |                 |        |
| <b>Fruits and Vegetables</b>     |              |        |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |         |        |         |        |        |        |                 |        |
| 1                                | Onions       | 1 kg   | 3.35  | 3.11  | 3.25   | 3.08   | 3.16   | 3.23   | 3.37   | 3.39   | 3.09   | 3.09    | 3.16    | 2.76   | 2.76    | 2.76   | 2.76   | 2.76   | 2.97            | -5.9%  |
| 2                                | Apples       | 1 kg   | 8.59  | 7.81  | 8.11   | 5.34   | 5.50   | 5.50   | 5.37   | 5.37   | 5.13   | 5.37    | 5.20    | 5.19   | 5.81    | 5.38   | 5.33   | 5.40   | 5.40            | -1.9%  |
| 3                                | Oranges      | 1 kg   | 10.21 | 9.74  | 9.41   | 7.77   | 7.77   | 7.77   | 8.02   | 8.02   | 8.05   | 8.15    | 9.07    | 8.83   | 8.65    | 8.28   | 8.18   | 8.18   | 8.09            | 4.2%   |
| <b>Meats, Fish &amp; Poultry</b> |              |        |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |         |        |         |        |        |        |                 |        |
| 1                                | Mutton Flaps | 1 kg   | 12.00 | 11.49 | 14.45  | 15.95  | 16.44  | 16.25  | 16.61  | 16.95  | 17.69  | 17.97   | 17.97   | 18.00  | 18.25   | 18.39  | 18.28  | 18.12  | 17.68           | 7.5%   |
| 2                                | Chicken Legs | 1 kg   | 3.45  | 3.35  | 3.97   | 3.37   | 2.89   | 2.91   | 2.86   | 3.18   | 3.51   | 3.51    | 3.51    | 3.88   | 3.50    | 3.30   | 3.38   | 3.41   | 3.53            | 22.2%  |
| 3                                | Turkey tail  | 1 kg   | 5.31  | 5.05  | 5.90   | 9.99   | 10.11  | 9.36   | 9.39   | 9.24   | 8.90   | 8.91    | 8.91    | 8.99   | 9.21    | 9.27   | 8.97   | 8.97   | 9.72            | -3.9%  |
| <b>Other Food</b>                |              |        |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |         |        |         |        |        |        |                 |        |
| 1                                | Flour        | 1 kg   | 1.70  | 1.72  | 1.74   | 1.80   | 1.80   | 1.82   | 1.82   | 1.82   | 1.87   | 1.87    | 1.87    | 1.83   | 1.88    | 1.89   | 1.88   | 1.89   | 1.90            | 5.6%   |
| 2                                | Sugar        | 1 kg   | 1.94  | 2.18  | 2.56   | 1.78   | 1.78   | 1.78   | 1.79   | 1.82   | 1.88   | 1.95    | 2.02    | 2.02   | 2.00    | 2.00   | 2.00   | 2.00   | 2.01            | 12.9%  |
| <b>TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND KAVA</b> |              |        |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |         |        |         |        |        |        |                 |        |
| <b>Tobacco</b>                   |              |        |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |         |        |         |        |        |        |                 |        |
| 1                                | Pall Mall    | Packet | 12.64 | 14.03 | 17.71  | 19.29  | 19.29  | 19.29  | 19.29  | 19.29  | 19.29  | 19.43   | 23.29   | 23.29  | 23.29   | 23.29  | 23.29  | 23.29  | 23.00           | 19.3%  |
| <b>TRANSPORTATION</b>            |              |        |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |         |        |         |        |        |        |                 |        |
| <b>Private Transportation</b>    |              |        |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |         |         |        |         |        |        |        |                 |        |
| 1                                | Petrol       | litre  | 2.36  | 2.22  | 2.51   | 2.80   | 2.82   | 2.82   | 2.77   | 2.68   | 2.55   | 2.18    | 1.92    | 2.18   | 2.34    | 2.42   | 2.43   | 2.42   | 2.42            | -14.0% |
| 2                                | Diesel       | litre  | 2.32  | 2.17  | 2.47   | 2.85   | 2.84   | 2.86   | 2.86   | 2.74   | 2.58   | 2.20    | 2.11    | 2.25   | 2.37    | 2.44   | 2.38   | 2.34   | 2.38            | -16.2% |

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

### 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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