



KINGDOM OF TONGA

Consumer Price Index

Statistical Bulletin

MARCH 2022



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Overview

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MARCH 2022

(Base Period: September 2018 = 100.0)

**Consumer Price Index increased by 0.2%,
Inflation Rate is 7.8%**

The Consumer Price Index covers price changes in Tongatapu and Vava'u. The weights were derived from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) (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 **March 2022** increased by **0.2%** from **112.1** in the previous month to **112.3**. Over the previous two months, the index for all items increased by **2.0%** in **February 2022** and decreased by **0.3%** in **January 2022**.
2. When comparing the **local** and **imported** indices for **March 2022** to the previous month, Local index decreased by **1.2%** and import index increased by **1.4%**.
3. The **rate of inflation for March 2022** is **7.8%**, compared to **9.1% inflation** in previous month. The **Inflation rate** for the same month of previous year, **March 2021**, was **3.3%**.
4. When comparing the **annual change** in the **local** and **imported indices** for **March 2022**, the local index recorded an increase by **6.9%** and import index also increased by **8.6%**.

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

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| A. FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES | -1.2% |
| Food Group recorded a decrease towards the index position of March 2022 . This was due to a decrease in price of some local and import items such as seafood that includes Lobster, octopus vegetables and root crops like capsicum, tomatoes, h/cabbage, early yam, taro wetland, taro leaves and other items include suckling pig that decreased throughout the month. | |
| B. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, TOBACCO AND KAVA | 0.3% |
| The price of items in this group recorded an increase due to increase in price of kava Tonga compared to the previous month. | |
| C. CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR | 0.0% |
| The price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month. | |
| D. HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY AND GAS. | 0.6% |
| The prices of items in this group recorded an increase due to increase in price of LP Gas compared to the previous month. | |

E. FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE	0.0%
Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month.	
F. HEALTH	0.0%
Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month.	
G. TRANSPORT	4.1%
Price of items in this group recorded a significant increase due to increase in price of <i>petrol</i> and <i>diesel</i> compared to the previous month.	
H. H. COMMUNICATIONS	0.0%
Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month.	
I. RECREATION AND CULTURE	0.0%
Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month.	
J. EDUCATION	0.0%
Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month.	
K. RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	0.0%
Price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month.	
L. MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	0.0%
The price of items in this group recorded no change compared to the previous month.	


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Dr. Viliami Konifelenisi Fifita
Government Statistician



Price Index:

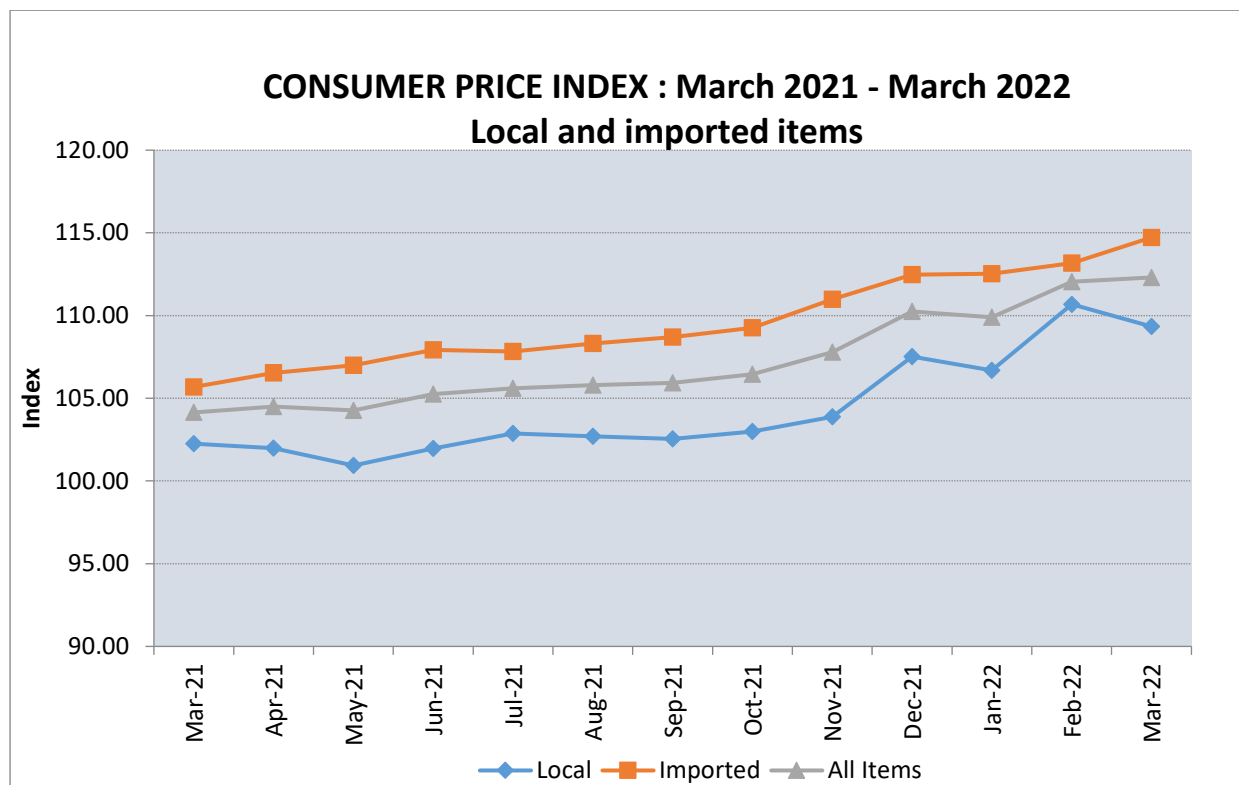


Figure 1 Graphical representation of Consumer Price Index for Total, Local and Imported Components

Annual Inflation Rate:

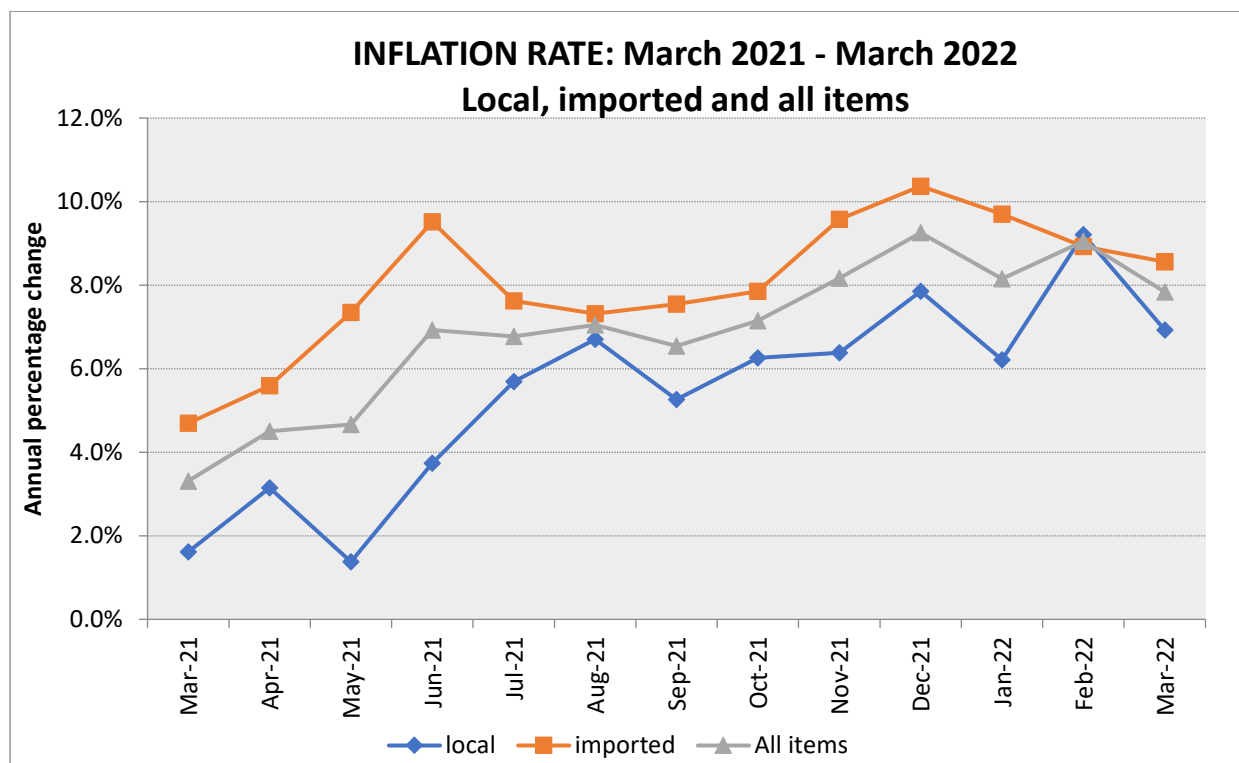


Figure 2 Graphical representation of Inflation rate (%) for Local, Imported and All Items as measured by Consumer Price Index

Contribution to % Change from Previous Month

Table 1 Contribution to % change from previous month, All groups: March 2022 to February 2022

Group	Local	Imported	Total
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	-0.6%	0.1%	-0.5%
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Clothing and footwear	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Health	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Transport	0.0%	0.6%	0.6%
Communication	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Recreation and culture	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Education	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Restaurants and hotels	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Miscellaneous goods and services	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
TOTAL	-0.5%	0.8%	0.2%

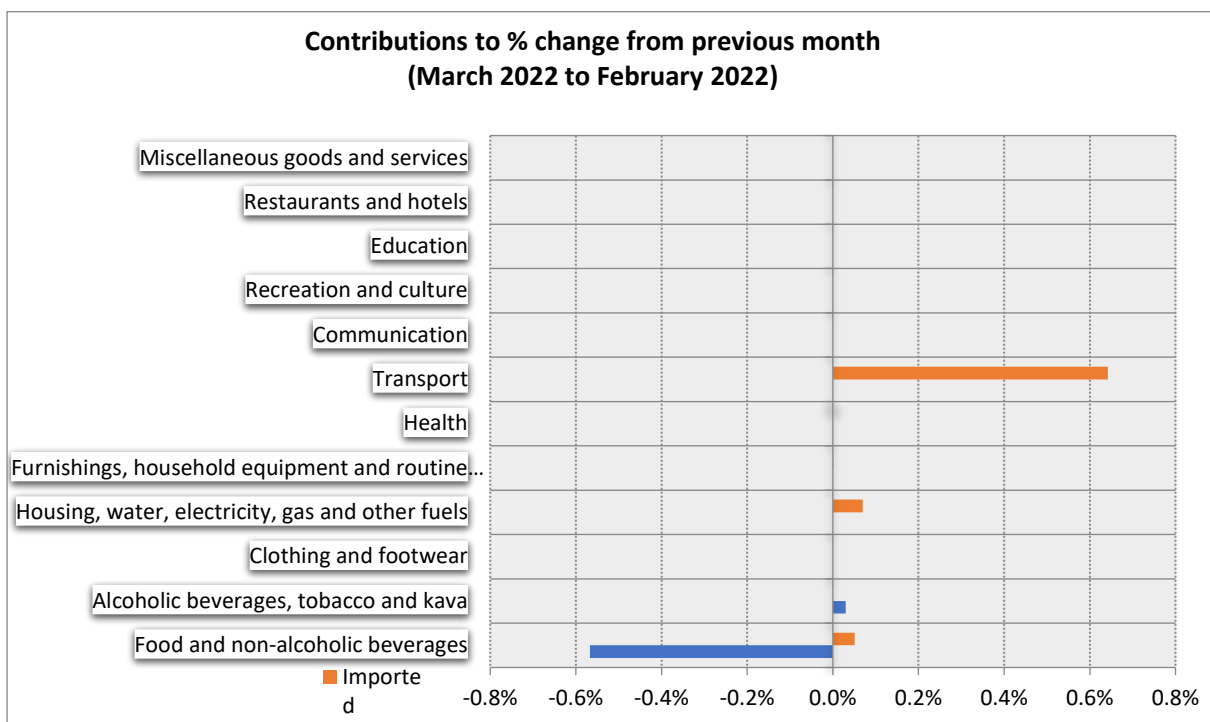


Figure 3 Contribution to % change from previous month, All groups: March 2022 to February 2022

Contribution to % Change from Last Year

Table 2 Contributions to % change from last year, all groups: March 2022 to March 2021

Group	Local	Imported	Total
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	1.7%	1.4%	3.0%
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Clothing and footwear	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	1.3%	0.8%	2.1%
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Health	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Transport	0.0%	2.2%	2.2%
Communications	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Recreation and culture	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Education	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Restaurants and hotels	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Miscellaneous goods and services	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%
TOTAL	3.1%	4.8%	7.8%

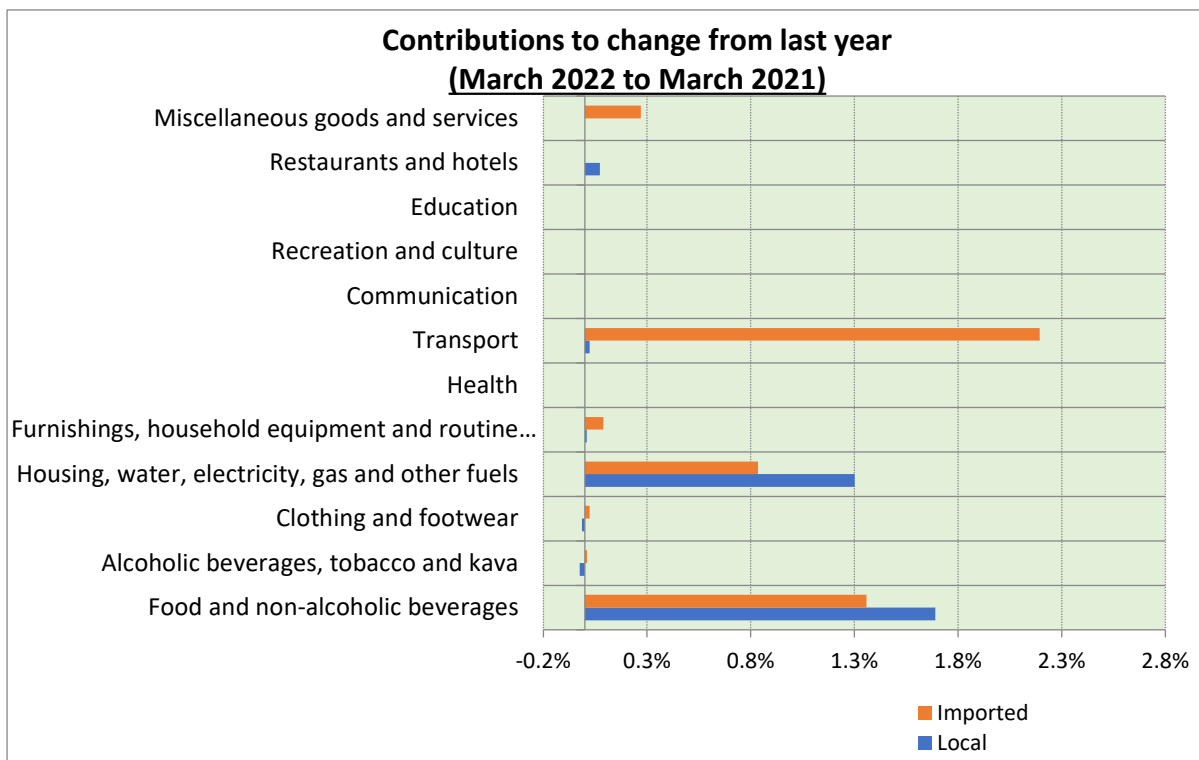


Figure 4 Contributions to % change from last year, all groups: March 2022 to March 2021

Table 3 Consumer Price Index by Major Groups, March 2022

Year/month	All items	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	Clothing and footwear	Housing, water, electricity and gas	Furnishings, household equipment and household maintenance	Health	Transport	Communication	Recreation and culture	Education	Restaurants and hotels	Miscellaneous goods and services
Weight	100%	39.8%	11.6%	2.1%	10.8%	3.2%	0.3%	16.4%	5.2%	1.1%	2.2%	3.1%	4.2%
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	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
2020													
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
2021													
January	101.6	106.2	100.1	114.3	94.0	103.9	100.0	93.1	99.9	103.6	104.8	109.5	101.9
February	102.8	108.0	100.0	113.2	94.5	103.9	100.0	95.4	99.9	103.6	104.8	109.5	102.4
March	104.1	109.9	100.3	113.4	96.1	103.9	100.0	98.0	99.9	103.6	104.8	109.5	102.5
April	104.5	109.6	100.3	113.4	96.2	103.9	100.0	100.3	99.9	103.6	104.8	109.5	103.8
May	104.3	107.9	100.4	113.9	98.5	103.9	100.0	101.4	99.9	103.6	104.8	109.5	103.8
June	105.2	110.5	99.9	113.9	98.6	103.9	100.0	101.5	99.9	103.6	104.8	109.5	104.0
July	105.6	110.2	100.1	113.9	102.8	104.5	100.0	101.2	99.9	103.6	104.8	109.5	104.0
August	105.8	110.4	99.9	114.0	102.6	104.5	100.0	102.2	99.9	103.6	104.8	109.5	104.0
September	105.9	110.3	99.8	113.6	103.2	104.9	100.0	102.9	99.9	103.6	104.8	109.5	104.0
October	106.4	111.2	99.3	113.6	103.7	104.9	100.0	103.2	99.9	103.6	104.8	109.5	106.2
November	107.8	112.0	99.3	113.6	108.5	104.9	100.0	106.3	99.9	103.6	104.8	109.5	106.2
December	110.2	116.6	100.0	113.6	109.8	106.4	100.0	108.1	99.9	103.6	104.8	109.5	107.6
2022													
January	109.9	114.8	99.6	113.8	115.9	106.7	100.0	106.5	99.9	103.6	104.8	109.5	107.8
February	112.1	119.3	99.9	113.8	115.9	107.0	100.0	107.7	99.9	103.6	104.8	111.9	109.1
March	112.3	117.8	100.1	113.8	116.7	107.1	100.0	112.1	99.9	103.6	104.8	111.9	109.1
Percentage change between March 2022 and February 2022.	0.2	-1.2	0.3	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Percentage change between March 2022 and March 2021.	7.8	7.3	-0.1	0.4	21.3	3.1	0.0	14.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	6.5

Table 4 Consumer Price Index and Inflation Rate, March 2022

Year	Month	Local	Import	All items	Monthly change for all items (%)	Annual inflation rate for period (%)	Average index for year	Average annual inflation rate (%)
2019	January	102.8	97.2	99.7	0.3	4.2		
	February	103.7	96.8	99.9	0.1	3.2		
	March	104.3	97.1	100.4	0.5	2.0		
	April	99.9	97.7	98.7	-1.6	0.2		
	May	99.7	99.5	99.6	0.8	1.6		
	June	99.4	100.1	99.8	0.2	1.8	100.0	4.0
	July	99.6	100.3	100.0	0.2	-0.5		
	August	99.6	101.1	100.5	0.5	-0.1		
	September	98.9	101.6	100.4	-0.1	0.4		
	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	100.1	1.2
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		
	June	98.3	98.5	98.4	-1.2	-1.4	100.2	0.2
	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	99.7	-0.3
2021	January	100.4	102.6	101.6	0.7	1.3		
	February	101.3	103.9	102.8	1.1	2.1		
	March	102.3	105.7	104.1	1.4	3.3		
	April	102.0	106.5	104.5	0.3	4.5		
	May	100.9	107.0	104.3	-0.2	4.7		
	June	102.0	107.9	105.2	0.9	6.9	101.6	1.4
	July	102.9	107.8	105.6	0.3	6.8		
	August	102.7	108.3	105.8	0.2	7.0		
	September	102.5	108.7	105.9	0.1	6.5		
	October	103.0	109.3	106.4	0.5	7.2		
	November	103.9	111.0	107.8	1.3	8.2		
	December	107.5	112.5	110.2	2.3	9.3	105.4	5.6
2022	January	106.7	112.5	109.9	-0.3	8.2		
	February	110.7	113.2	112.1	2.0	9.1		
	March	109.3	114.7	112.3	0.2	7.8	107.5	7.2

Table 5 Consumer Price Index with local and imported components,
Percentage change from previous month, March 2022

	Weights (%)			March 2022			February 2022			% Change		
	Local	Import	Total	Local	Import	Total	Local	Import	Total	Local	Import	Total
A. Food and non-alcoholic beverages	15.2	24.6	39.8	120.7	116.1	117.8	124.9	115.8	119.3	-3.3%	0.2%	-1.2%
Food	14.6	23.2	37.8	121.5	116.8	118.6	125.9	116.6	120.1	-3.5%	0.2%	-1.3%
Non- alcoholic beverages	0.6	1.4	2.0	102.5	103.3	103.1	102.5	103.3	103.1	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
B. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	6.7	4.9	11.6	92.7	110.4	100.1	92.2	110.4	99.9	0.5%	0.0%	0.3%
Alcoholic beverages	0.9	3.2	4.1	109.9	104.9	106.0	109.9	104.9	106.0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Tobacco	4.1	1.7	5.8	109.9	120.9	113.1	109.9	120.9	113.1	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Kava	1.7	0.0	1.7	43.7	0.0	43.7	41.8	0.0	41.8	4.6%	-	4.6%
C. Clothing and footwear	0.4	1.7	2.1	118.9	112.8	113.8	118.9	112.8	113.8	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Clothing	0.4	1.5	1.8	118.9	113.7	114.7	118.9	113.7	114.7	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Footwear	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.0	108.0	108.0	0.0	108.0	108.0	-	0.0%	0.0%
D. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	7.2	3.6	10.8	111.1	127.8	116.7	111.1	125.6	115.9	0.0%	1.7%	0.6%
Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	0.2	1.8	2.0	118.1	145.4	142.3	118.1	142.1	139.4	0.0%	2.3%	2.1%
Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling	2.0	0.0	2.0	108.1	0.0	108.1	108.1	0.0	108.1	0.0%	-	0.0%
Electricity, gas and other fuels	5.0	1.8	6.8	112.1	110.9	111.8	112.1	109.8	111.5	0.0%	1.0%	0.3%
E. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	0.8	2.4	3.2	108.1	106.7	107.1	108.1	106.7	107.0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings	0.5	0.0	0.5	111.6	0.0	111.6	111.6	0.0	111.6	0.0%	-	0.0%
Household appliances	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.0	97.6	97.6	0.0	97.6	97.6	-	0.0%	0.0%
Tools and equipment for house and garden	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	106.1	106.1	0.0	106.1	106.1	-	0.0%	0.0%
Goods and services for routine household maintenance	0.3	1.5	1.8	102.3	110.9	109.4	102.3	110.8	109.3	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
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	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	0.0%	0.0%
Outpatient services	0.2	0.0	0.2	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0%	-	0.0%
G. Transport	3.4	13.0	16.4	103.3	114.4	112.1	103.3	108.9	107.7	0.0%	5.1%	4.1%
Operation of personal transport equipment	1.3	9.9	11.2	105.4	118.1	116.6	105.4	110.8	110.2	0.0%	6.6%	5.9%
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%
H. Communication	5.2	0.0	5.2	99.9	0.0	99.9	99.9	0.0	99.9	0.0%	-	0.0%
Telephone and telefax services	5.2	0.0	5.2	99.9	0.0	99.9	99.9	0.0	99.9	0.0%	-	0.0%
I. Recreation and culture	0.0	1.1	1.1	0.0	103.6	103.6	0.0	103.6	103.6	-	0.0%	0.0%
Newspapers, books and stationery	0.0	1.1	1.1	0.0	103.6	103.6	0.0	103.6	103.6	-	0.0%	0.0%
J. Education	2.2	0.0	2.2	104.8	0.0	104.8	104.8	0.0	104.8	0.0%	-	0.0%
Pre-primary and primary education	0.3	0.0	0.3	100.1	0.0	100.1	100.1	0.0	100.1	0.0%	-	0.0%
Secondary education	1.1	0.0	1.1	107.0	0.0	107.0	107.0	0.0	107.0	0.0%	-	0.0%
Tertiary education	0.8	0.0	0.8	103.9	0.0	103.9	103.9	0.0	103.9	0.0%	-	0.0%
K. Restaurants and hotels	3.1	0.0	3.1	111.9	0.0	111.9	111.9	0.0	111.9	0.0%	-	0.0%
Catering services	3.1	0.0	3.1	111.9	0.0	111.9	111.9	0.0	111.9	0.0%	-	0.0%
L. Miscellaneous goods and services	0.5	3.7	4.2	103.3	109.9	109.1	103.3	109.9	109.1	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Personal care	0.0	3.7	3.7	0.0	109.9	109.9	0.0	109.9	109.9	-	0.0%	0.0%
Financial services n.e.c.	0.1	0.0	0.1	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0%	-	0.0%
Other Services n.e.c.	0.4	0.0	0.4	104.2	0.0	104.2	104.2	0.0	104.2	0.0%	-	0.0%
TOTAL	44.9	55.1	100	109.3	114.7	112.3	110.7	113.2	112.1	-1.2%	1.4%	0.2%

Table 6 Consumer Price Index with local and imported components,
Percentage change from same month of previous year, March 2022

	Weights			March 2022			March 2021			% Change		
	Local	Import	Total	Local	Import	Total	Local	Import	Total	Local	Import	Total
A. Food and non-alcoholic beverages	<u>15.2%</u>	<u>24.6%</u>	<u>39.8%</u>	<u>120.7</u>	<u>116.1</u>	<u>117.8</u>	<u>109.1</u>	<u>110.3</u>	<u>109.9</u>	<u>10.6</u>	<u>5.2</u>	<u>7.3</u>
Food	14.6%	23.2%	37.8%	121.5	116.8	118.6	109.5	110.9	110.4	10.9	5.3	7.5
Non- alcoholic beverages	0.6%	1.4%	2.0%	102.5	103.3	103.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.5	3.3	3.1
B. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	<u>6.7%</u>	<u>4.9%</u>	<u>11.6%</u>	<u>92.7</u>	<u>110.4</u>	<u>100.1</u>	<u>93.1</u>	<u>110.2</u>	<u>100.3</u>	<u>-0.4</u>	<u>0.2</u>	<u>-0.1</u>
Alcoholic beverages	0.9%	3.2%	4.1%	109.9	104.9	106.0	106.9	105.0	105.4	2.8	0.0	0.6
Tobacco	4.1%	1.7%	5.8%	109.9	120.9	113.1	109.1	120.2	112.3	0.7	0.6	0.7
Kava	1.7%	0.0%	1.7%	43.7	0.0	43.7	48.4	-	48.4	-9.9	-	-9.9
C. Clothing and footwear	<u>0.4%</u>	<u>1.7%</u>	<u>2.1%</u>	<u>118.9</u>	<u>112.8</u>	<u>113.8</u>	<u>123.3</u>	<u>111.4</u>	<u>113.4</u>	<u>-3.5</u>	<u>1.3</u>	<u>0.4</u>
Clothing	0.4%	1.5%	1.8%	118.9	113.7	114.7	123.3	112.2	114.4	-3.5	1.3	0.3
Footwear	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0	108.0	108.0	-	106.7	106.7	-	1.3	1.3
D. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	<u>7.2%</u>	<u>3.6%</u>	<u>10.8%</u>	<u>111.1</u>	<u>127.8</u>	<u>116.7</u>	<u>92.4</u>	<u>103.6</u>	<u>96.1</u>	<u>20.3</u>	<u>23.3</u>	<u>21.3</u>
Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	0.2%	1.8%	2.0%	118.1	145.4	142.3	118.1	108.3	109.4	0.0	34.2	30.0
Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling	2.0%	0.0%	2.0%	108.1	0.0	108.1	108.1	-	108.1	0.0	-	0.0
Electricity, gas and other fuels	5.0%	1.8%	6.8%	112.1	110.9	111.8	84.9	99.1	88.7	32.0	11.9	26.0
E. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	<u>0.8%</u>	<u>2.4%</u>	<u>3.2%</u>	<u>108.1</u>	<u>106.7</u>	<u>107.1</u>	<u>106.9</u>	<u>102.8</u>	<u>103.9</u>	<u>1.1</u>	<u>3.8</u>	<u>3.1</u>
Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	111.6	0.0	111.6	109.7	-	109.7	1.8	-	1.8
Household appliances	0.0%	0.7%	0.7%	0.0	97.6	97.6	0.0	97.6	97.6	-	0.0	0.0
Tools and equipment for house and garden	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0	106.1	106.1	0.0	106.2	106.2	-	-0.1	-0.1
Goods and services for routine household maintenance	0.3%	1.5%	1.8%	102.3	110.9	109.4	102.3	104.8	104.3	0.0	5.9	4.8
F. Health	<u>0.2%</u>	<u>0.2%</u>	<u>0.3%</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>
Medical products, appliances and equipment	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	100.0	-	0.0	0.0
Outpatient services	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
G. Transport	<u>3.4%</u>	<u>13.0%</u>	<u>16.4%</u>	<u>103.3</u>	<u>114.4</u>	<u>112.1</u>	<u>102.6</u>	<u>96.8</u>	<u>98.0</u>	<u>0.7</u>	<u>18.2</u>	<u>14.4</u>
Operation of personal transport equipment	1.3%	9.9%	11.2%	105.4	118.1	116.6	103.5	95.0	95.9	1.8	24.3	21.6
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
H. Communication	<u>5.2%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>5.2%</u>	<u>99.9</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>99.9</u>	<u>99.9</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99.9</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0.0</u>
Telephone and telefax services	5.2%	0.0%	5.2%	99.9	0.0	99.9	99.9	-	99.9	0.0	-	0.0
I. Recreation and culture	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>1.1%</u>	<u>1.1%</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>103.6</u>	<u>103.6</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>103.6</u>	<u>103.6</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>
Newspapers, books and stationery	0.0%	1.1%	1.1%	0.0	103.6	103.6	-	103.6	103.6	-	0.0	0.0
J. Education	<u>2.2%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>2.2%</u>	<u>104.8</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>104.8</u>	<u>104.8</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>104.8</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0.0</u>
Pre-primary and primary education	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%	100.1	0.0	100.1	100.1	103.6	100.1	0.0	-100.0	0.0
Secondary education	1.1%	0.0%	1.1%	107.0	0.0	107.0	107.0	-	107.0	0.0	-	0.0
Tertiary education	0.8%	0.0%	0.8%	103.9	0.0	103.9	103.9	-	103.9	0.0	-	0.0
K. Restaurants and hotels	<u>3.1%</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>3.1%</u>	<u>111.9</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>111.9</u>	<u>109.5</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>109.5</u>	<u>2.2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2.2</u>
Catering services	3.1%	0.0%	3.1%	111.9	0.0	111.9	109.5	-	109.5	2.2	-	2.2
L. Miscellaneous goods and services	<u>0.5%</u>	<u>3.7%</u>	<u>4.2%</u>	<u>103.3</u>	<u>109.9</u>	<u>109.1</u>	<u>103.3</u>	<u>102.4</u>	<u>102.5</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>7.3</u>	<u>6.5</u>
Personal care	0.0%	3.7%	3.7%	0.0	109.9	109.9	-	102.4	102.4	-	7.3	7.3
Financial services n.e.c.	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
Other Services n.e.c.	0.4%	0.0%	0.4%	104.2	0.0	104.2	104.2	-	104.2	0.0	-	0.0
TOTAL	<u>44.9%</u>	<u>55.1%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>109.3</u>	<u>114.7</u>	<u>112.3</u>	<u>102.3</u>	<u>105.7</u>	<u>104.1</u>	<u>6.9</u>	<u>8.6</u>	<u>7.8</u>

Table 7 Consumer Price Index: Groups and subgroups - index numbers, March 2022

	Annual													
	2020	Mar 21	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Jul 21	Aug 21	Sep 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22
A. Food and non-alcoholic beverages	102.8	109.9	109.6	107.9	110.5	110.2	110.4	110.3	111.2	112.0	116.6	114.8	119.3	117.8
Food	102.9	110.4	110.1	108.3	111.0	110.7	110.8	110.7	111.7	112.6	117.4	115.4	120.1	118.6
Non- alcoholic beverages	100.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.1	101.6	101.6	101.7	101.4	101.7	101.7	102.9	103.1	103.1
B. Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and kava	97.9	100.3	100.3	100.4	99.9	100.1	99.9	99.8	99.3	99.3	100.0	99.6	99.9	100.1
Alcoholic beverages	105.0	105.4	105.4	105.7	105.7	105.7	105.7	104.4	104.7	104.7	106.0	106.0	106.0	106.0
Tobacco	106.6	112.3	112.3	112.3	112.3	112.7	112.7	112.5	112.5	112.5	112.5	112.5	113.1	113.1
Kava	52.5	48.4	48.4	48.4	45.0	45.0	43.7	46.7	43.1	43.1	44.7	41.8	41.8	43.7
C. Clothing and footwear	109.2	113.4	113.4	113.9	113.9	113.9	114.0	113.6	113.6	113.6	113.6	113.8	113.8	113.8
Clothing	109.5	114.4	114.4	114.9	114.9	114.9	115.0	114.4	114.4	114.4	114.4	114.7	114.7	114.7
Footwear	106.9	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	106.7	108.0	108.0	108.0	108.0	108.0	108.0	108.0
D. Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	95.0	96.1	96.2	98.5	98.6	102.8	102.6	103.2	103.7	108.5	109.8	115.9	115.9	116.7
Maintenance and repair of the dwelling	106.4	109.4	109.5	109.6	110.1	110.6	110.6	113.4	114.5	129.4	129.4	139.4	139.4	142.3
Water supply and miscellaneous services relating to the dwelling	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	87.9	88.7	88.7	92.4	92.4	98.9	98.7	98.8	99.3	102.5	104.7	111.5	111.5	111.8
E. Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	102.4	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.9	104.5	104.5	104.9	104.9	104.9	106.4	106.7	107.0	107.1
Furniture and furnishings, carpets and other floor coverings	104.2	109.7	109.7	109.7	109.7	109.7	109.7	111.6	111.6	111.6	111.6	111.6	111.6	111.6
Household appliances	94.8	97.6	97.6	97.6	97.6	97.6	97.6	97.6	97.6	97.6	97.6	97.6	97.6	97.6
Tools and equipment for house and garden	102.8	106.2	106.2	106.2	106.2	107.6	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.1	106.1
Goods and services for routine household maintenance	104.8	104.3	104.3	104.4	104.4	105.2	105.4	105.7	105.7	105.7	108.2	108.7	109.3	109.4
F. Health	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
Medical products, appliances and equipment	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
G. Transport	92.1	98.0	100.3	101.4	101.5	101.2	102.2	102.9	103.2	106.3	108.1	106.5	107.7	112.1
Operation of personal transport equipment	87.2	95.9	99.3	100.9	101.0	100.6	102.1	103.2	103.6	108.1	110.8	108.5	110.2	116.6
Transport services	102.5	102.4	102.4	102.4	102.4	102.4	102.4	102.4	102.4	102.4	102.4	102.4	102.4	102.4
H. Communication	100.3	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9
Telephone and telefax services	100.3	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9
I. Recreation and culture	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
Newspapers, books and stationery	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
J. Education	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8
Pre-primary and primary education	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	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.0	107.0
Tertiary education	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.9	103.9
K. Restaurants and hotels	108.2	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	111.9	111.9
Catering services	108.2	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	109.5	111.9	111.9
L. Miscellaneous goods and services	100.5	102.5	103.8	103.8	104.0	104.0	104.0	104.0	106.2	106.2	107.6	107.8	109.1	109.1
Personal care	100.1	102.4	103.9	103.9	104.1	104.1	104.1	104.1	106.6	106.6	108.2	108.4	109.9	109.9
Financial services n.e.c.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Other Services n.e.c.	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
ALL GROUPS	99.7	104.1	104.5	104.3	105.2	105.6	105.8	105.9	106.4	107.8	110.2	109.9	112.1	112.3

Table 8 Monthly average price of selected local items, March 2022

		Annual			Monthly													
		Unit	2018	2019	2020	Mar 21	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Jul 21	Aug 21	Sep 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22
<u>ROOT CROPS</u>																		
1	Talo - Futuna	1 kg	1.76	1.65	1.48	1.52	1.11	1.81	1.68	1.82	1.87	1.90	1.99	1.99	2.17	2.02	2.03	2.22
2	Talo - Tonga	1kg	1.82	1.91	1.75	1.50	1.45	1.53	1.49	1.75	1.52	1.34	1.80	1.78	2.09	1.52	1.94	1.72
3	Manioke	1 kg	0.91	1.22	0.96	0.98	0.80	0.83	0.86	0.83	0.78	0.79	0.80	0.80	0.97	0.78	0.88	0.84
4	Kumala	1 kg	2.27	1.95	1.74	1.78	1.64	1.57	1.80	2.10	2.35	2.52	2.06	2.06	1.79	1.48	2.02	1.90
5	Yams; early	1 kg	5.37	5.21	5.29	3.98	5.07	7.87	7.07	7.33	8.19	9.22	6.37	6.53	8.32	6.49	8.90	6.14
6	Yams, late	1 kg	2.98	2.84	2.72	2.74	3.16	3.34	4.38	2.49	3.57	3.57	3.49	3.53	3.53	3.53	3.57	3.65
<u>VEGETABLES</u>																		
1	Lu	1 kg	5.50	4.77	5.28	5.57	5.08	5.74	5.35	5.47	4.50	4.49	5.77	5.77	7.79	9.26	10.34	8.52
2	Tomatoes	1 kg	7.75	10.24	8.70	20.28	20.34	11.67	13.45	11.15	7.84	7.15	5.74	6.33	6.56	7.90	17.83	23.24
3	H/Cabbage	1 kg	3.05	3.19	3.05	6.38	6.78	3.53	3.67	2.65	3.69	1.58	2.17	2.17	3.79	1.82	6.52	5.57
4	Carrots	1 kg	5.24	3.17	3.91	4.23	4.23	4.23	4.23	4.77	4.89	5.46	5.48	5.48	7.42	4.56	4.78	4.78
5	Capsicum	1 kg	14.19	11.44	12.88	14.48	16.72	17.90	19.92	19.93	15.30	12.96	8.93	8.93	10.36	17.44	44.74	17.02
<u>MARINE AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS</u>																		
1	Sausages	1 kg	8.32	8.23	8.47	8.79	8.79	8.97	8.97	8.90	8.90	8.90	8.90	8.90	8.83	9.11	9.11	9.11
2	Eggs	1 egg	16.65	17.04	17.58	18.30	18.30	18.00	18.67	19.25	19.92	20.58	20.58	20.58	20.58	20.42	20.42	20.42
3	Tuna	1 kg	15.39	16.67	16.55	17.00	18.00	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.67	19.67	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00
4	Octopus	1 kg	19.69	19.26	18.00	24.59	19.02	18.05	18.49	16.80	18.45	22.15	25.59	26.79	47.56	37.90	26.30	23.14
5	Cockles (to'o)	1 kg	5.12	5.92	6.18	6.23	6.10	6.26	6.90	7.63	6.57	7.04	6.98	8.19	8.42	6.40	8.17	8.35
6	Stringed fish (Mixed)	1 kg	8.54	8.92	9.60	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.97	11.00	11.00
<u>TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND KAVA</u>																		
1	Kava	1 kg	146.04	116.67	66.88	60.00	60.00	60.00	55.00	55.00	52.50	57.50	52.50	52.50	55.00	50.00	50.00	52.50

Table 9 Monthly average price of selected imported items, March 2022

		Unit	Annual			Monthly													Annual change %
			2018	2019	2020	Mar 21	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	July 21	Aug 21	Sept 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22	
-	FOOD																		
	Fruits and Vegetables																		
1	Onions	1 kg	3.02	3.12	3.01	3.10	3.10	2.86	2.73	2.80	2.83	2.83	2.83	2.83	2.93	2.94	3.11	3.26	5.1%
2	Apples	1 kg	6.30	5.36	5.37	6.54	6.54	6.54	5.50	5.73	5.48	5.66	5.78	5.78	5.81	6.11	6.11	6.11	-6.5%
3	Oranges	1 kg	9.07	8.33	8.27	8.23	8.23	8.23	7.81	7.29	8.56	8.28	8.46	8.46	8.43	8.59	8.59	8.59	4.3%
	Meats, Fish & Poultry																		
1	Mutton Flaps	1 kg	15.68	15.74	17.68	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.01	16.77	16.93	17.00	17.03	17.03	17.09	17.16	17.24	17.24	-0.1%
2	Chicken Legs	1 kg	3.63	3.46	3.37	3.75	3.78	3.94	4.14	4.10	4.06	4.00	4.12	4.25	4.40	4.26	4.36	4.36	16.1%
3	Turkey tail	1 kg	8.33	9.86	9.15	10.88	10.88	11.66	12.11	12.28	12.70	14.01	14.02	14.02	13.56	14.08	14.08	14.08	29.4%
-	Other Food																		
1	Flour	1 kg	1.71	1.77	1.86	1.98	1.98	1.93	1.93	1.93	1.95	1.96	1.95	1.95	1.98	1.98	2.01	2.05	3.5%
2	Sugar	1 kg	1.93	1.74	1.94	1.99	2.01	2.08	2.40	2.47	2.58	2.58	2.54	2.54	2.42	2.45	2.45	2.45	23.5%
	TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND KAVA																		
	Tobacco																		
1	Pall Mall	Packet	17.14	19.29	21.61	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.00	23.29	23.29	23.14	23.14	23.14	23.14	23.14	23.14	23.14	0.6%
-	TRANSPORTATION																		
	Private Transportation																		
1	Petrol	litre	2.78	2.67	2.47	2.75	2.87	2.94	2.94	2.92	2.98	3.02	3.02	3.17	3.26	3.18	3.22	3.43	24.4%
2	Diesel	litre	2.84	2.78	2.50	2.73	2.82	2.83	2.82	2.83	2.86	2.88	2.92	3.08	3.15	3.08	3.16	3.38	24.0%

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 10 New vs old weights at the COICOP Division Level

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

Further definitions

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

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



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