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Government of Tonga
Tonga Statistics Department

STATISTICAL BULLETIN

FOOD PRICE INDEX— September 2026

(Base Period: Average 12 months 2021 = 100.0)

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KEY POINTS

September 2026 compared to September 2025:

Annual Food Inflation Rate is +10.1%

Groups with significant percentage shifts in FPI:

- Fruits and Nuts: **+31.7%**
- Fish and Other Seafood: **+15.7%**
- Vegetables, Tubers, Plantains, Cooking Bananas and Pulses: **+15.3%**
- Oils and Fats: **+6.9%**
- Milk, Other Dairy Products and Eggs: **-10.3%**

Annual Food Price Inflation Rate

In September 2026, the Food Price Index (FPI) for all items stood at 63.0, an increase from 57.2 in September 2025. This represents a 10.1% increase in the annual Food Price inflation rate.

The FPI is derived from the Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages component of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket, which encompasses both locally produced and imported products. A year-on-year comparison indicates that prices of locally produced food items increased significantly by 15.0%, compared with a more moderate 5.5% increase in prices for imported food and non-alcoholic beverages.

During the year ending September 2026, the overall FPI increase was mainly due to price increases in several categories. The main contributor to the increase was the fruits and nuts group, which rose by 31.7% and accounted for 1.3 percentage points of the overall increase, driven mainly by higher prices of lemons, watermelon, and brown coconuts. The vegetables, tubers, plantains, cooking bananas, and pulses group also recorded a notable increase of 15.3%, contributing 1.2 percentage points to the FPI, with cucumber, taro leaves, and taro (wetland) being the key drivers.

The milk, other dairy products, and eggs category recorded a 10.3% decrease, reducing the annual food inflation rate by 0.3 percentage points. The decline was primarily attributable to lower prices of eggs.

Monthly Food Price Inflation Rate

The monthly Food Price Index (FPI) rose by 0.9%, increasing from 62.5 in August 2026 to 63.0 in September 2026. A 1.4% rise in locally produced food items drove the upward trend, supported by a 0.4% increase in imported food and non-alcoholic beverages during the same period.

The fruits and nuts category recorded an increase of 21.5% in its monthly FPI, largely attributed to an increase in the prices of lemons, breadfruit, and brown coconuts. Similarly, the milk, other dairy products and eggs category recorded a 3.5% increase, mainly driven by an increase in the prices of eggs and butter.

Figure 1: Consumer Price Index and Food Price Index, September 2025 – September 2026

Figure 2: Annual Inflation Rate and Annual Food Inflation Rate, September 2025 – September 2026

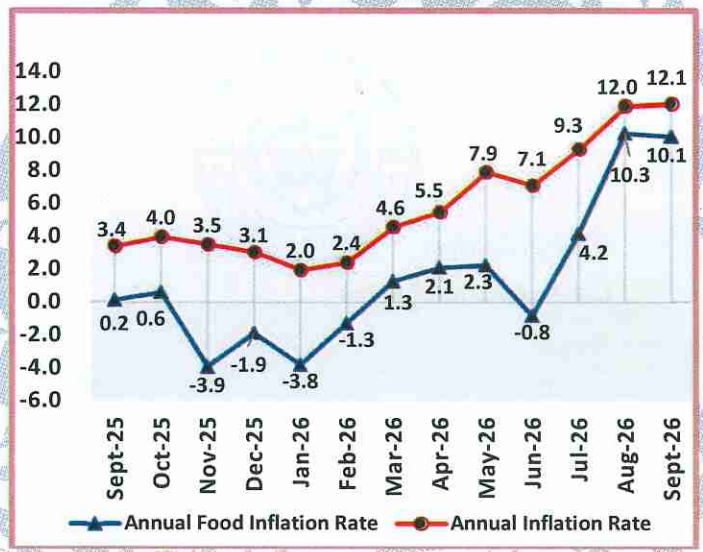

Table A: Summary highlights in percentage points, September 2025 – September 2026. (All groups, YoY)

PACCOICOP Sub-groups	PACCOICOP	Growth Contribution	Change in Indices	CPI 2021 Weights
FOOD		+4.3	+10.4	40.9
	Cereals and Cereal Products	+0.1	+0.9	6.5
	Live Animals, Meat, and Other Parts of Slaughtered Land Animals	+0.6	+5.0	11.4
	Fish and Other Seafood	+0.7	+15.7	4.6
	Milk, Other Dairy Products and Eggs	-0.3	-10.3	2.6
	Oils and Fats	+0.1	+6.9	1.2
	Fruits and Nuts	+1.3	+31.7	4.0
	Vegetables, Tubers, Plantains, Cooking Bananas and Pulses	+1.2	+15.3	7.9
	Sugar, Confectionery, and Desserts	0.0	-1.4	1.4
	Ready-made Food and Other Food Products	+0.1	+6.3	1.4
NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES		0.0	+1.3	1.7
Total				**42.6**

Disclaimer: Differences between the different group indexes and all item indexes are due to rounding.

For further information, please visit our website https://tongastats.gov.to or +676 23300

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