



KINGDOM OF TONGA

Consumer Price Index

Statistical Bulletin
March 2013



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STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MARCH 2013

(Base Period: October 2010=100.0)

Consumer Price Index for March 2013 increased by 1.1%. With an Annual Inflation Rate of 0.8%.

The Consumer Price Index covers price changes in Tongatapu Division only. The weights were derived from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (2009).

1. The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** for March 2013 increased by **1.1% to 106.3** from February 2013 **105.2**. Over the previous two months, the index for all items increased by **0.1%** in February 2013, and decreased by **1.1%** in January 2013.
2. When comparing the local and imported indices for March 2013 to the previous month, import index increased by **0.7%**, and local index increased by **1.8%**.
3. The **annual rate of inflation** for March 2013 was **0.8%** compared to **1.1%** in February 2013. The annual inflation for the same month of previous year (March 2012) was **1.6%**.
4. When comparing the annual change in the local and imported indices for March 2013, the local index decreased by **1.0%** while the imported index showed an increase of **2.1%**.
5. Changes in each group compared with the previous month are as follows:

A.	FOOD	1.9%
	The change in the index for food items from the previous month February 2013 is largely owed to increases in prices of local fruit and vegetables such as carrots, tomatoes, capsicum and peanuts. Prices of local seafood such as clams and sea urchin also increased.. Prices of some imported food items (tinned & packaged food, frozen meat) also increased throughout the month.	
B.	HOUSING	0.0%
	Price of items in this group recorded no change.	
C.	HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS	0.0%
	Price of items in this group recorded no change this month compared to the previous month.	
D.	CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	0.0%
	Prices of items in this group recorded no change this month compared to the previous month.	
E.	TRANSPORTATION	1.7%
	Transportation index marked an increase in the index position of March 2013 and was due mainly to increases in prices of both diesel and unleaded.	
F.	TOBACCO, ALCOHOL & KAVA TONGA	0.1%
	An increase in the index position of this group from the previous month was due to increasing prices of imported tobacco and alcohol.	
G.	MISC. GOODS AND SERVICES	0.0%
	Price of items in this group recorded no change.	

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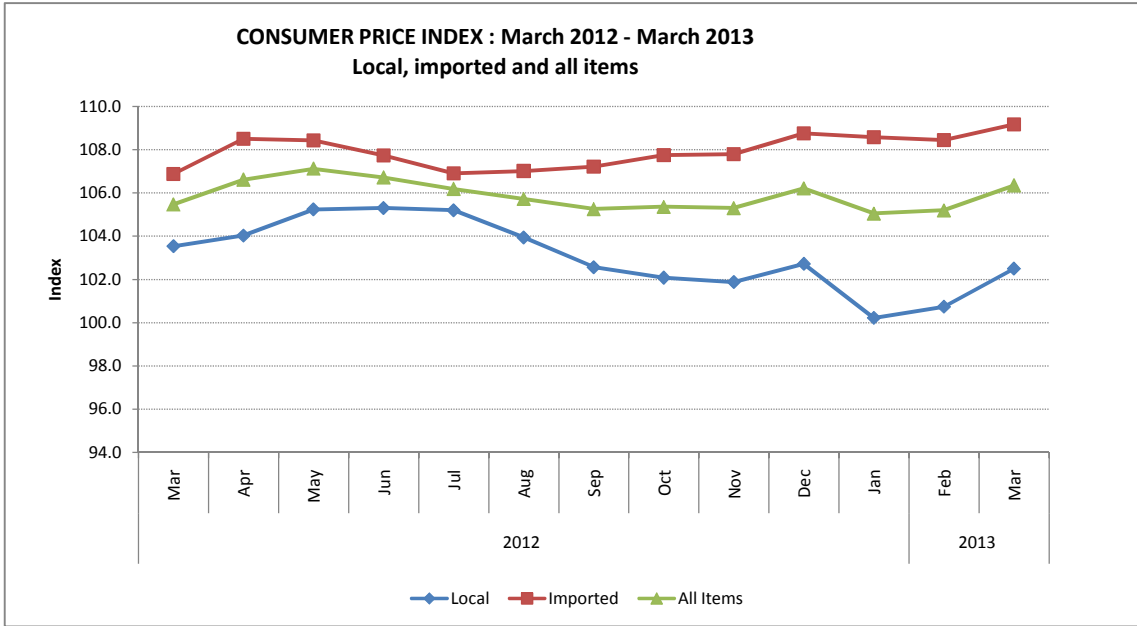


Fig 1: Graphical representation of Consumer Price Index for Total, Local and Imported Components

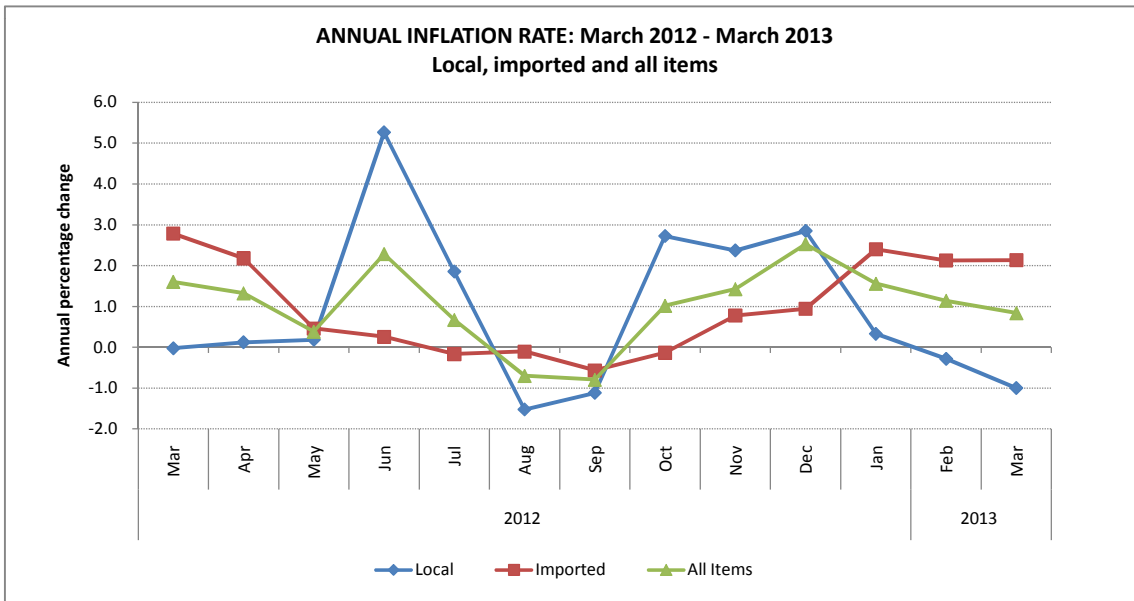
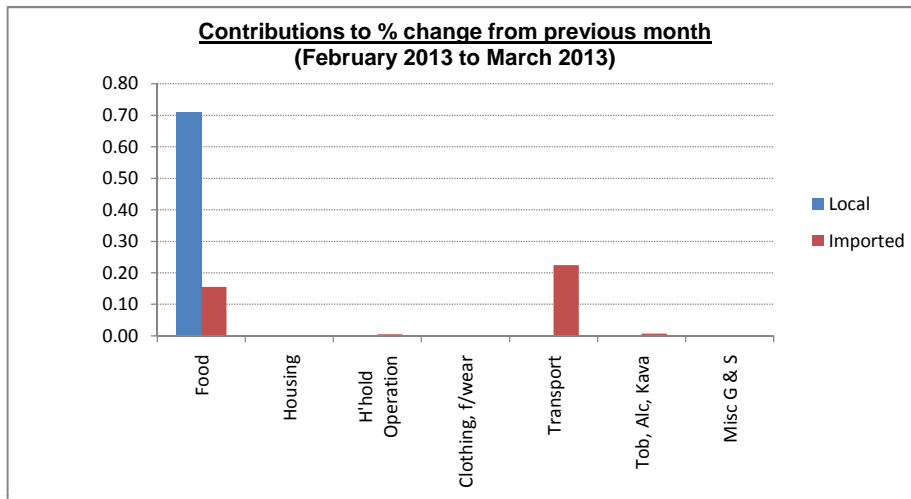


Fig 2: Graphical representation of Annual Inflation rate (%) for Local, Imported and All Items as measured by Consumer Price Index (CPI)

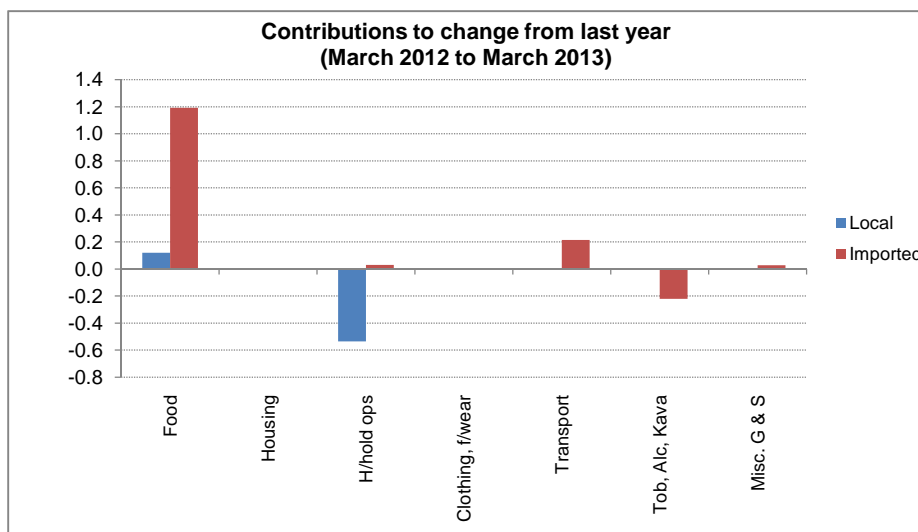
**Fig 3: Contribution to % change from previous month, All groups
February 2013 to March 2013 (1.1%)**

Group	Local	Imported	Total
Food	0.71	0.16	0.86
Housing	0.00	0.00	0.00
H'hold Operation	0.00	0.01	0.01
Clothing, f/wear	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transport	0.00	0.22	0.22
Tob, Alc, Kava	0.00	0.01	0.01
Misc G & S	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	0.7	0.4	1.1



**Fig 4: Contribution to % change from last year, All groups
March 2012 to March 2013 (0.8%)**

	Local	Imported	Total
Food	0.1	1.2	1.3
Housing	0.0	0.0	0.0
H/hold ops	-0.5	0.0	-0.5
Clothing, f/wear	0.0	0.0	0.0
Transport	0.0	0.2	0.2
Tob, Alc, Kava	0.0	-0.2	-0.2
Misc. G & S	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	-0.4	1.3	0.8



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Table 1: Consumer Price Index by major groups
(Base Period : October 2010=100.0)

MARCH 2013

Year/month	All items	Food	Housing	Household operations	Clothing & footwear	Transportation	Tobacco, alcohol & kava	Misc. goods & services
Weight	100.00	45.76	2.52	20.80	3.16	11.93	6.00	9.83
2009 January	93.8	91.6	103.8	106.0	100.0	94.1	83.1	101.8
February	93.6	92.6	103.8	105.9	100.2	89.5	83.6	101.8
March	94.2	93.3	103.8	104.6	100.2	92.3	83.9	101.8
April	93.4	92.9	103.9	95.1	101.1	93.0	84.6	104.9
May	94.9	96.3	103.9	95.0	101.1	93.4	84.6	104.9
June	94.8	95.9	103.9	95.0	101.1	94.3	84.1	104.9
July	94.9	95.2	104.0	95.2	101.3	96.5	83.7	105.4
August	96.3	98.0	104.0	95.2	101.3	99.3	82.3	105.8
September	97.7	101.5	104.0	95.2	101.3	98.8	82.3	105.7
October	95.4	96.6	103.9	98.3	100.6	96.4	81.3	105.2
November	94.9	95.7	103.9	98.3	100.6	96.7	80.5	105.2
December	95.0	95.3	102.8	98.4	100.6	98.0	81.0	105.2
2010 January	95.2	94.8	103.0	98.2	99.7	97.8	86.5	99.1
February	95.3	94.5	103.0	98.3	99.7	99.2	87.0	99.1
March	96.6	97.1	103.0	98.4	100.2	99.3	87.5	99.1
April	97.7	99.3	103.7	98.4	99.4	100.8	87.2	99.1
May	97.3	97.6	103.7	98.7	99.4	102.7	87.2	99.1
June	97.4	98.0	103.6	100.0	99.3	100.8	87.5	99.2
July	99.6	99.1	102.9	100.0	100.0	99.6	100.1	99.2
August	100.3	100.4	103.2	100.1	100.0	100.3	100.1	99.2
September	100.5	100.7	99.6	100.1	100.0	101.0	100.1	100.4
October	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
November	99.5	98.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.7	100.4	99.4
December	99.8	99.0	99.6	100.0	100.0	102.3	100.4	99.4
2011 January	101.7	101.4	99.6	100.0	104.6	107.3	100.6	100.1
February	101.5	100.4	100.4	100.0	104.6	109.3	100.8	100.4
March	103.8	104.6	99.8	100.0	104.6	112.0	100.6	100.8
April	105.2	106.1	99.8	100.3	104.6	116.5	101.4	101.7
May	106.7	108.6	99.8	100.4	104.6	118.7	101.7	102.0
June	104.3	103.3	99.8	101.8	104.6	116.9	101.3	102.1
July	105.5	106.6	99.8	101.8	104.6	113.7	101.5	102.1
August	106.5	109.1	99.8	101.8	104.6	112.1	102.2	102.1
September	106.1	108.5	99.8	101.8	104.6	111.2	102.2	102.4
October	104.3	103.5	99.8	103.9	104.6	110.8	102.2	103.1
November	103.8	102.4	99.8	103.9	104.6	111.8	102.3	102.1
December	103.6	102.1	99.7	103.8	104.6	111.3	102.2	102.0
2012 January	103.4	101.7	99.6	104.1	104.6	111.0	102.8	102.0
February	104.0	102.7	99.8	104.1	104.6	111.9	102.9	101.8
March	105.5	105.3	99.8	104.4	104.6	113.2	103.0	102.2
April	106.6	107.4	99.4	104.3	104.6	115.2	103.0	102.1
May	107.1	108.3	99.3	104.4	104.6	116.0	102.4	102.2
June	106.7	107.8	99.3	104.7	104.6	114.3	101.9	102.3
July	106.2	107.5	99.3	104.8	104.6	110.7	101.8	102.3
August	105.7	107.0	99.3	103.9	104.6	110.2	102.0	102.4
September	105.3	106.7	99.3	101.3	104.6	112.2	102.0	102.3
October	105.4	106.2	100.0	101.3	104.6	114.4	102.4	102.3
November	105.3	106.3	100.0	101.2	104.6	114.1	102.4	101.7
December	106.2	108.2	100.0	101.9	104.6	113.2	102.4	101.8
2013 January	105.0	106.0	99.0	101.9	104.6	112.3	101.7	102.0
February	105.2	106.4	100.0	101.8	104.6	113.1	99.0	102.5
March	106.3	108.4	100.0	101.8	104.6	115.1	99.1	102.5
Percentage change between February 2013 and March 2013.	1.1	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.1	0.0
Percentage change between March 2012 and March 2013.	0.8	2.9	0.1	-2.5	0.0	1.7	-3.8	0.3

Table 2: Consumer Price Index and annual inflation rate
(Base Period: October 2010=100.0)
MARCH 2013

Year/month	Local	Import	All items	Monthly change for all items (%)	Annual inflation rate for period (%)	Average index for year	Average annual inflation rate (%)
2009 January	97.8	91.5	93.8	-0.2	3.8		
February	98.3	90.9	93.6	-0.2	1.9		
March	98.7	91.7	94.2	0.7	2.4		
April	95.0	92.5	93.4	-0.8	1.4		
May	98.5	92.9	94.9	1.6	1.9		
June	97.5	93.3	94.8	-0.1	1.2	94.6	5.6
July	96.6	93.8	94.9	0.0	1.2		
August	99.6	94.5	96.3	1.5	0.5		
September	100.8	95.9	97.7	1.5	1.6		
October	96.5	94.7	95.4	-2.4	-0.4		
November	97.5	93.4	94.9	-0.5	0.4		
December	98.5	93.0	95.0	0.1	1.1	94.9	1.4
2010 January	95.3	94.9	95.2	0.2	1.5		
February	95.8	94.9	95.3	0.1	1.9		
March	97.0	96.2	96.6	1.3	2.5		
April	99.3	96.7	97.7	1.2	4.6		
May	96.9	97.3	97.3	-0.4	2.5		
June	97.4	97.2	97.4	0.1	2.7	96.1	1.7
July	99.0	99.8	99.6	2.3	5.0		
August	99.9	100.3	100.3	0.7	4.2		
September	101.5	99.8	100.5	0.2	2.9		
October	100.0	100.0	100.0	-0.5	4.8		
November	98.8	100.0	99.5	-0.5	4.8		
December	98.9	100.4	99.8	0.3	5.0	98.3	3.5
2011 January	101.7	101.6	101.7	1.9	6.8		
February	100.3	102.4	101.5	-0.2	6.5		
March	103.6	104.0	103.8	2.2	7.5		
April	103.9	106.2	105.2	1.4	7.7		
May	105.0	107.9	106.7	1.4	9.7		
June	100.0	107.5	104.3	-2.2	7.1	101.9	6.0
July	103.3	107.1	105.5	1.1	5.9		
August	105.6	107.1	106.5	0.9	6.1		
September	103.7	107.8	106.1	-0.3	5.6		
October	99.4	107.9	104.3	-1.7	4.3		
November	99.5	107.0	103.8	-0.5	4.4		
December	99.9	107.7	103.6	-0.2	3.8	104.4	6.3
2012 January	99.9	106.0	103.4	-0.1	1.7		
February	101.0	106.2	104.0	0.5	2.4		
March	103.5	106.9	105.5	1.4	1.6		
April	104.0	108.5	106.6	1.1	1.3		
May	105.2	108.4	107.1	0.5	0.4		
June	105.3	107.7	106.7	-0.4	2.3	105.3	3.3
July	105.2	106.9	106.2	-0.5	0.7		
August	103.9	107.0	105.7	-0.4	-0.7		
September	102.6	107.2	105.3	-0.4	-0.8		
October	102.1	107.7	105.4	0.1	1.0		
November	101.9	107.8	105.3	-0.1	1.4		
December	102.7	108.8	106.2	0.9	2.5	105.6	1.2
2013 January	100.2	108.6	105.0	-1.1	1.6		
February	100.7	108.4	105.2	0.1	1.1		
March	102.5	109.2	106.3	1.1	0.8	105.9	1.0

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Table 3: Consumer Price Index with local and imported components
Percentage change from previous month
(Base Period: October 2010 = 100.0)
MARCH 2013

	Weights			March 2013			February 2013			% Change		
	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total
A. FOOD	17.8	27.9	45.8	104.2	111.0	108.4	100.0	110.4	106.4	4.2	0.5	1.9
Fruit and Vegetables	6.5	0.9	7.5	106.8	111.6	107.4	96.6	117.5	99.2	10.5	-5.0	8.2
Meats, Fish & Poultry	3.7	14.6	18.4	100.8	115.9	112.9	99.9	114.7	111.7	0.9	1.0	1.0
Dairy Farm & Vegetable Products	0.5	3.2	3.6	110.0	106.8	107.2	110.0	106.7	107.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Cereals and Cereal Products	3.4	3.5	6.9	107.2	107.9	107.6	105.8	108.2	107.0	1.4	-0.2	0.5
Other Food	0.0	5.7	5.7	0.0	102.5	102.5	0.0	101.6	101.6	-	0.9	0.9
Drinks, Sweets & Meals away from home	3.7	0.0	3.7	99.7	0.0	99.7	99.7	0.0	99.7	0.0	-	0.0
B. HOUSING	1.7	0.8	2.5	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
House Maintenance Goods	0.1	0.8	0.9	100.0	99.9	99.9	100.0	99.9	99.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
House Maintenance Services	1.6	0.0	1.6	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
C. HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS	17.3	3.5	20.8	101.6	103.1	101.8	101.6	102.9	101.8	0.0	0.2	0.0
Domestic Fuel and Power	6.0	1.1	7.1	102.7	111.7	104.2	102.7	111.6	104.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
H/hold Appl., Equipment & Utensils	0.0	1.2	1.2	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	0.0	0.0
Household Furni., Furn. & Textiles	1.4	0.0	1.4	107.5	0.0	107.5	107.5	0.0	107.5	0.0	-	0.0
H/hold Supplies & Services	4.7	1.2	5.9	100.0	98.3	99.6	100.0	97.8	99.6	0.0	0.4	0.1
Communications Services	5.2	0.0	5.2	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
D. CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	0.0	3.2	3.2	0.0	104.6	104.6	0.0	104.6	104.6	-	0.0	0.0
Clothing Supplies & Services	0.0	2.1	2.1	0.0	106.8	106.8	0.0	106.8	106.8	-	0.0	0.0
Footwear	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	0.0	0.0
E. TRANSPORTATION	0.5	11.5	11.9	107.0	115.5	115.1	107.0	113.4	113.1	0.0	1.8	1.7
Public Transportation	0.5	2.9	3.4	107.0	104.7	105.0	107.0	104.7	105.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Private Transportation	0.0	8.6	8.6	0.0	119.1	119.1	0.0	116.4	116.4	-	2.4	2.4
F. TOBACCO, ALCOHOL & KAVA	1.5	4.5	6.0	100.0	98.8	99.1	100.0	98.6	99.0	0.0	0.2	0.1
Tobacco	0.0	2.9	2.9	0.0	102.4	102.4	0.0	102.3	102.3	-	0.1	0.1
Alcohol	0.8	1.6	2.4	100.0	92.3	94.9	100.0	92.0	94.7	0.0	0.3	0.2
Kava	0.7	0.0	0.7	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
G. MISC. GOODS & SERVICES	3.5	6.4	9.8	100.0	103.8	102.5	100.0	103.8	102.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Medical Health Services & Supplies	0.2	0.3	0.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cosmetics and Toiletries	0.0	5.3	5.3	0.0	102.8	102.8	0.0	102.8	102.8	-	0.0	0.0
Personal Goods	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	0.0	0.0
Newspapers & Stationery Supplies	0.1	0.6	0.6	100.0	117.1	115.1	100.0	117.1	115.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Leisure, Recreational & Craft Supplies	0.4	0.0	0.4	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
Other Goods and Services	0.8	0.0	0.8	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
Education	2.0	0.0	2.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	42.2	57.8	100.0	102.5	109.2	106.3	100.7	108.4	105.2	1.8	0.7	1.1

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Table 4: Consumer Price Index with local and imported components
Percentage change from same month of previous year
(Base Period: October 2010 = 100.0)

MARCH 2013

	Weights			March 2013			March 2012			% Change		
	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total	Local	Imported	Total
A. FOOD	17.8	27.9	45.8	104.2	111.0	108.4	103.5	106.5	105.3	0.7	4.2	2.9
Fruit and Vegetables	6.5	0.9	7.5	106.8	111.6	107.4	103.3	110.6	104.3	3.3	0.9	3.0
Meat, Fish & Poultry	3.7	14.6	18.4	100.8	115.9	112.9	104.9	107.5	107.0	-4.0	7.8	5.5
Dairy Farm & Vegetables Products	0.5	3.2	3.6	110.0	106.8	107.2	97.5	106.5	105.3	12.8	0.3	1.8
Cereals and Cereal Products	3.4	3.5	6.9	107.2	107.9	107.6	107.2	109.1	108.2	0.0	-1.1	-0.6
Other Food	0.0	5.7	5.7	0.0	102.5	102.5	0.0	101.6	101.6	-	0.9	0.9
Drinks, Sweets & Meals away from home	3.7	0.0	3.7	99.7	0.0	99.7	99.7	0.0	99.7	0.0	-	0.0
B. HOUSING	1.7	0.8	2.5	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.5	99.8	0.0	0.4	0.1
House Maintenance Goods	0.1	0.8	0.9	100.0	99.9	99.9	100.0	99.5	99.6	0.0	0.4	0.4
House Maintenance Services	1.6	0.0	1.6	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
C. HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS	17.3	3.5	20.8	101.6	103.1	101.8	104.8	102.2	104.4	-3.1	0.9	-2.5
Domestic Fuel and Power	6.0	1.1	7.1	102.7	111.7	104.2	112.2	108.3	111.6	-8.5	3.1	-6.7
H/hold Appl., Equipment & Utensils	0.0	1.2	1.2	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	0.0	0.0
H/hold Furniture, Furniture & Textiles	1.4	0.0	1.4	107.5	0.0	107.5	107.5	0.0	107.5	0.0	-	0.0
H/hold Supplies & Services	4.7	1.2	5.9	100.0	98.3	99.6	100.0	98.7	99.7	0.0	-0.4	-0.1
Communications Services	5.2	0.0	5.2	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
D. CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	0.0	3.2	3.2	0.0	104.6	104.6	0.0	104.6	104.6	-	0.0	0.0
Clothing Supplies & Services	0.0	2.1	2.1	0.0	106.8	106.8	0.0	106.8	106.8	-	0.0	0.0
Footwear	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	0.0	0.0
E. TRANSPORTATION	0.5	11.5	11.9	107.0	115.5	115.1	107.0	113.5	113.2	0.0	1.7	1.7
Public Transport	0.5	2.9	3.4	107.0	104.7	105.0	107.0	104.7	105.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Private Transport	0.0	8.6	8.6	0.0	119.1	119.1	0.0	116.5	116.5	-	2.3	2.3
F. TOBACCO, ALCOHOL & KAVA	1.5	4.5	6.0	100.0	98.8	99.1	100.0	104.0	103.0	0.0	-5.0	-3.8
Tobacco	0.0	2.9	2.9	0.0	102.4	102.4	0.0	109.3	109.3	-	-6.4	-6.4
Alcohol	0.8	1.6	2.4	100.0	92.3	94.9	100.0	94.2	96.1	0.0	-2.0	-1.3
Kava	0.7	0.0	0.7	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
G. MISC. GOODS & SERVICES	3.5	6.4	9.8	100.0	103.8	102.5	100.0	103.4	102.2	0.0	0.5	0.3
Medical Health Services & Supplies	0.2	0.3	0.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cosmetics and Toiletries	0.0	5.3	5.3	0.0	102.8	102.8	0.0	103.0	103.0	-	-0.2	-0.2
Personal Goods	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	-	0.0	0.0
Newspapers & Stationery Supplies	0.1	0.6	0.6	100.0	117.1	115.1	100.0	109.4	108.3	0.0	7.0	6.3
Leisure, Recreational & Craft Supplies	0.4	0.0	0.4	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
Other Goods and Services	0.8	0.0	0.8	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	-	0.0
Education	2.0	0.0	2.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	42.2	57.8	100.0	102.5	109.2	106.3	103.5	106.9	105.5	-1.0	2.1	0.8

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Table 5: Consumer Price Index
Groups and subgroups - index numbers
(Base Period: October 2010 = 100.0)
March 2013

Group or Subgroup	Annual		Monthly												
	2011	2012	Mar 12	Apr 12	May 12	Jun 12	Jul 12	Aug 12	Sep 12	Oct 02	Nov 12	Dec 12	Jan 13	Feb 13	Mar 13
A.FOOD GROUP	104.7	106.3	105.3	107.4	108.3	107.8	107.5	107.0	106.7	106.2	106.3	108.2	106.0	106.4	108.4
Fruit and Vegetables	102.9	99.8	104.3	105.4	109.4	110.0	103.0	99.2	95.4	96.7	98.0	102.9	89.8	99.2	107.4
Meats, Fish & Poultry	105.1	110.9	107.0	111.6	112.3	110.8	113.2	113.2	113.8	112.0	111.9	114.8	114.4	111.7	112.9
Dairy Farm & Vegetable Products	107.0	106.3	105.3	105.5	106.1	106.6	106.3	106.7	107.1	107.3	106.4	106.9	107.3	107.1	107.2
Cereals and Cereal Products	108.6	108.4	108.2	108.5	108.3	108.3	108.0	108.0	108.1	108.0	108.0	107.6	107.7	107.0	107.6
Other Food	103.0	101.3	101.6	101.3	101.4	100.7	100.3	100.9	101.1	101.5	101.5	101.2	101.6	101.6	102.5
Drinks, Sweets & Meals away from home	100.0	99.8	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.7
B.HOUSING GROUP	99.8	99.6	99.8	99.4	99.3	99.3	99.3	99.3	99.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.0	100.0	100.0
House Maintenance Goods	99.6	98.9	99.6	98.3	98.0	98.0	98.2	98.2	98.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	97.1	99.9	99.9
House Maintenance 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
C.HOUSEHOLD OPERATION GROUP	101.8	103.4	104.4	104.3	104.4	104.7	104.8	103.9	101.3	101.3	101.2	101.9	101.9	101.8	101.8
Domestic Fuel and Power	105.0	108.5	111.6	111.5	111.6	112.3	112.6	110.0	102.2	102.2	102.2	104.1	104.2	104.1	104.2
H/hold Appl., Equipment & Utensils	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
Household Furni., Furn. & Textiles	100.0	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5
H/hold Supplies & Services	100.2	99.9	99.7	99.7	99.8	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.1	100.1	99.9	99.9	100.0	99.6	99.6
Communications 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
D.CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR GROUP	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6
Clothing Supplies & Services	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.8	106.8
Footwear	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
E.TRANSPORTATION GROUP	112.6	113.0	113.2	115.2	116.0	114.3	110.7	110.2	112.2	114.4	114.1	113.2	112.3	113.1	115.1
Public Transportation	104.7	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0	105.0
Private Transportation	115.7	116.2	116.5	119.2	120.3	118.0	113.0	112.3	115.1	118.1	117.8	116.5	115.3	116.4	119.1
F.TOBACCO, ALCOHOL & KAVA GROUP	101.6	102.4	103.0	103.0	102.4	101.9	101.8	102.0	102.0	102.4	102.4	102.4	101.7	99.0	99.1
Tobacco	103.3	109.5	109.3	109.3	109.4	109.4	109.4	109.4	109.4	109.4	109.4	109.4	102.3	102.3	102.4
Alcohol	100.0	94.6	96.1	96.1	94.7	93.5	93.2	93.7	93.7	94.7	94.7	94.7	101.4	94.7	94.9
Kava	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
G. MISC. GOODS & SERVICES	101.7	102.1	102.2	102.1	102.2	102.3	102.3	102.4	102.3	102.3	101.7	101.8	102.0	102.5	102.5
Medical Health Services & Supplies	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
Cosmetics and Toiletries	102.2	102.9	103.0	102.8	103.0	103.2	103.2	103.4	103.3	103.3	102.1	102.3	102.8	102.8	102.8
Personal Goods	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
Newspapers & Stationery Supplies	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	115.1	115.1
Leisure & Recreational & Craft Supplies	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 Goods and 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
Education	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
ALL GROUPS	104.4	105.6	105.5	106.6	107.1	106.7	106.2	105.7	105.3	105.4	105.3	106.2	105.0	105.2	106.3

Table 6: Monthly average price of selected local items

	Unit	Annual		Monthly													
		2011	2012	Feb 12	Mar 12	Apr 12	May 12	Jun 12	Jul 12	Aug 12	Sept 12	Oct 12	Nov 12	Dec 12	Jan 13	Feb 13	Mar 13
ROOT CROPS																	
1 Talo - Futuna	1 kg	0.86	0.86	0.82	0.73	0.73	0.81	0.87	0.79	0.89	0.88	1.05	0.98	0.99	0.98	1.07	0.95
2 Talo - Tonga	1kg	1.14	1.22	1.12	1.23	1.21	1.03	0.91	1.11	1.24	1.11	1.15	1.89	1.35	1.29	1.12	0.96
3 Manioke	1 kg	0.50	0.52	0.45	0.46	0.43	0.47	0.50	0.57	0.58	0.60	0.59	0.58	0.57	0.57	0.61	0.62
4 Kumala	1 kg	1.10	1.23	0.85	0.91	1.14	1.14	1.21	1.02	1.50	1.32	1.35	1.81	1.49	1.07	0.99	0.78
5 Yams; early	1 kg	4.34	4.52	3.61	3.19	3.21	4.04	4.27	4.93	4.72	4.30	4.69	5.29	7.17	4.61	3.50	2.94
6 Yams, late	1 kg	2.38	2.69	1.66	2.15	2.09	1.93	1.98	2.49	2.63	3.49	3.53	3.21	5.36	5.71	5.71	2.12
VEGETABLES																	
1 Lu	1 kg	3.86	4.08	4.17	4.41	4.91	4.56	4.32	4.11	4.19	3.59	3.11	2.94	4.02	3.82	3.34	3.31
2 Pele	1 kg	2.22	2.41	2.26	2.39	2.36	2.30	2.34	2.48	2.49	2.18	3.13	2.24	2.33	2.13	1.67	2.12
3 Tomatoes	1 kg	4.13	3.60	2.98	5.98	5.83	6.06	5.69	4.49	2.34	2.04	2.12	1.92	2.01	1.04	2.89	6.09
4 H/Cabbage	1 kg	2.23	2.26	4.76	3.50	3.65	3.86	2.25	1.62	1.35	1.33	1.02	0.69	1.33	1.34	2.92	2.47
7 Carrots	1 kg	4.22	3.77	5.23	4.43	4.59	5.08	6.76	4.49	3.07	2.51	2.07	2.27	2.46	2.24	2.80	4.09
8 Capsicum	1 kg	8.28	6.21	4.97	6.87	7.10	7.06	8.19	7.68	6.66	6.55	7.05	4.28	4.30	4.55	4.69	8.93
FRUITS AND NUTS																	
1 Bananas ripe	1 kg	2.81	2.95	2.45	2.78	3.03	3.39	3.68	3.23	3.08	2.81	2.71	3.09	2.64	2.69	2.14	2.34
2 Watermelon	1 kg	1.11	1.12	0.69	0.89	0.99	1.17	1.27	1.26	1.53	1.53	1.18	0.79	1.17	1.10	1.17	1.01
3 Pineapple	1 kg	5.32	5.22	4.44	5.31	5.31	4.60	5.88	6.78	7.69	7.69	4.24	3.08	3.16	3.85	3.80	4.35
4 Pawpaw	1 kg	1.83	1.93	1.36	1.46	2.27	2.51	2.06	2.30	2.36	2.05	2.50	1.53	1.52	1.61	1.41	1.72
5 Coconut (dry)	1 kg	0.35	0.35	0.36	0.33	0.33	0.30	0.33	0.34	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.37	0.46	0.39	0.40	0.35
6 Coconut (green)	1 kg	0.60	0.61	0.62	0.65	0.62	0.64	0.58	0.58	0.64	0.63	0.62	0.56	0.64	0.56	0.57	0.62
7 Peanuts	1 kg	18.90	20.06	16.33	18.00	20.00	20.50	18.11	18.33	21.33	22.33	20.89	20.93	28.00	20.57	18.39	23.33
MARINE AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS																	
1 Sausages	1 kg	6.98	7.11	6.90	7.15	7.15	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.20	7.07	7.07	7.07	7.00	7.00	7.07
2 Eggs	1 egg	15.58	15.49	14.13	14.63	15.13	15.25	15.00	15.50	16.13	16.63	16.63	16.38	16.50	16.50	16.50	16.50
3 Tuna	1 kg	12.16	12.63	11.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	13.00	14.75	14.00	14.00	14.00	12.75	12.00	11.67	11.25	10.80
4 Octopus	1 kg	12.84	12.79	14.33	9.03	7.97	9.54	11.40	12.51	11.84	11.38	11.50	17.37	21.33	14.81	13.38	13.32
5 Cockles (to'o)	1 kg	3.56	3.51	2.71	2.24	2.61	2.81	3.84	4.88	4.37	4.38	2.75	4.52	3.95	3.66	3.30	2.16
7 Stringed fish (Mixed)	1 kg	8.18	8.62	7.28	7.19	7.67	7.89	8.22	9.66	10.47	11.49	9.03	8.00	8.90	7.56	7.43	7.73

Table 7: Monthly average price of selected imported items

	Unit	Annual			Monthly													Annual change %		
		2010	2011	2012	Feb 12	Mar 12	Apr 12	May 12	Jun 12	Jul 12	Aug 12	Sept 12	Oct 12	Nov 12	Dec 12	Jan 13	Feb 13		Mar 13	
FOOD																				
Fruits and Vegetables																				
1	Potatoes	1 kg	2.87	3.00	2.95	2.59	3.00	2.83	2.85	2.85	3.13	3.03	3.13	3.28	3.03	3.03	2.78	2.78	2.53	-16%
2	Onions	1 kg	2.95	2.89	2.93	2.74	2.94	2.81	2.81	3.19	2.75	2.88	2.88	2.75	3.25	3.30	3.18	3.18	2.85	-3%
3	Apples	1 kg	8.45	8.03	8.54	9.08	8.02	8.02	8.02	8.64	8.14	9.01	8.95	8.46	7.96	8.63	8.63	8.63	8.63	8%
4	Oranges	1 kg	12.15	11.87	11.74	11.15	11.15	12.00	12.00	11.57	11.57	11.31	11.07	11.07	13.10	12.89	12.90	12.90	12.90	16%
Meats, Fish & Poultry																				
5	Mutton Flaps	1 kg	9.42	10.05	10.48	10.00	10.23	11.05	10.95	10.36	10.57	10.57	10.51	10.42	10.50	10.79	10.96	10.96	11.13	9%
6	Chicken Pieces	1 kg	3.43	3.59	3.71	3.58	3.61	3.79	3.70	3.71	3.68	3.68	3.69	3.75	3.77	4.01	3.95	3.91	3.91	8%
Other Food																				
1	Flour	1 kg	1.81	1.85	1.91	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.91	1.88	1.88	1.88	1.85	1.87	1.86	1.83	-5%
2	Sugar	1 kg	2.52	2.47	2.40	2.47	2.42	2.43	2.44	2.43	2.42	2.42	2.40	2.35	2.35	2.31	2.33	2.33	2.28	-6%
TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND KAVA																				
Tobacco																				
3	Winfield Blue	Packet	11.24	11.81	12.15	12.15	12.09	12.09	12.09	12.09	12.09	12.08	12.09	12.09	12.09	12.09	11.24	11.24	11.24	-7%
4	Port Royal Tobacco	Packet	19.70	23.09	23.29	23.21	23.21	23.21	23.21	23.21	23.21	23.21	23.21	23.21	23.21	23.21	23.21	23.21	23.21	0%
TRANSPORTATION																				
Private Transportation																				
1	Petrol	litre	2.63	2.81	2.82	2.77	2.83	2.90	2.94	2.87	2.74	2.72	2.79	2.87	2.86	2.82	2.79	2.82	2.90	3%
2	Diesel	litre	2.68	2.88	2.90	2.89	2.91	2.96	2.97	2.93	2.82	2.80	2.87	2.95	2.95	2.92	2.90	2.92	2.96	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 October 2010 (=100.0) was first published for the month of October 2010. Data from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) 2009 was used to determine the expenditure pattern of consumers. The proportion of expenditure on each item or group is referred to the weight. The previous reference period was November 2002 based on the results of HIES 2001.

There are 222 items in the Tonga basket classified to seven major groups. The items are further classified by whether they are imported or have been produced locally. The pricing outlets selected in Tongatapu include the Talamahu market (agriculture produce), the Vuna Wharf (fresh fish), super-markets, village stores, petrol stations, restaurants, airlines etc. The CPI covers price changes in Tongatapu Division only due to communication problems with outer island divisions.

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

CPI group	October 2010 Weights		
	Local	Imported	Total
A. Food	17.82	27.94	45.76
B. Housing	1.70	0.82	2.52
C. Household operations	17.29	3.51	20.80
D. Clothing and footwear	-	3.16	3.16
E. Transportation	0.46	11.47	11.93
F. Tobacco, alcohol and kava	1.50	4.51	6.00
G. Miscellaneous goods and services	3.47	6.36	9.83
Total	42.23	57.77	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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