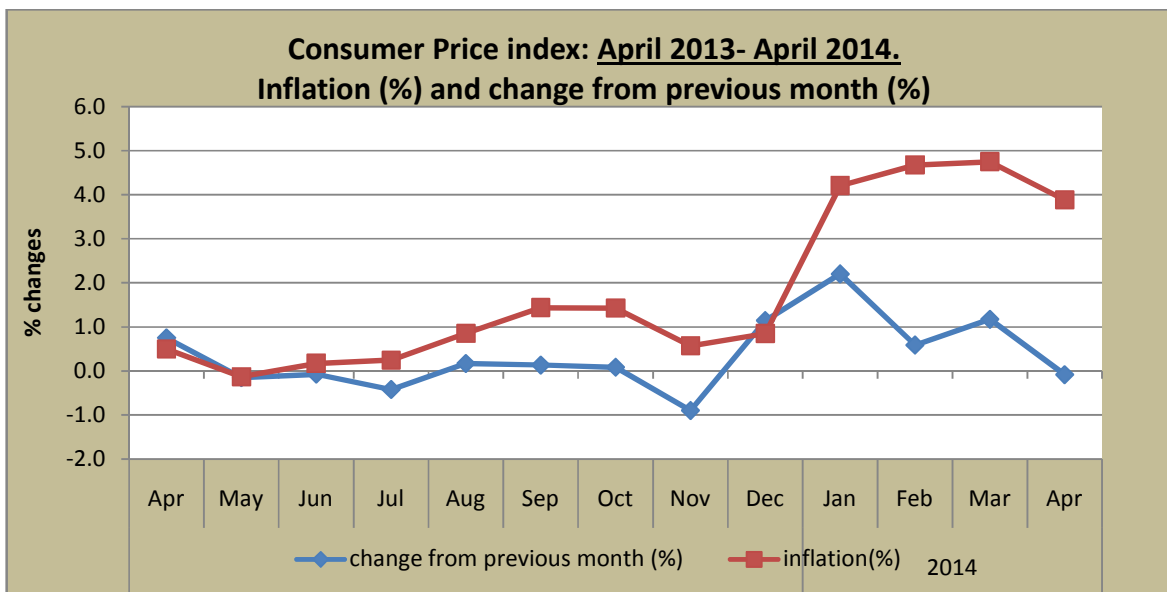




GOVERNMENT OF TONGA
STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
MEDIA RELEASE

Consumer Price Index for April 2014 recorded a decrease of -0.1%
With an Annual Inflation Rate of 3.9%



The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** for **April 2014** recorded a decrease of **0.1%** from **March 2014 (111.4)** and now stands at **111.3**. In comparison with the previous month, local index recorded no change while import index decreased by **0.2%**. For the previous two months, **February 2014** recorded an increase of **0.6%** while **March 2014** increased by **1.2%**

The **Annual Inflation Rate** for **April 2014** was **3.9%** compares to **4.7%** in previous month. The **annual inflation** for the same month of previous year, **April 2013** was **0.5%**. Local Index marked an increase by **5.2%** while Imported Index increased by **2.9%**.

The **Food Group** marked a decrease of **-0.2%** towards the index position of **April 2014**, due mainly to decrease in prices of **Meat, fish & Poultry**. Prices of some imported items such as tinned & packaged food and frozen meat decreased throughout the months.

Decreasing prices of some common construction materials on **Housing group** such as Paint and cement compared to previous month had contributed to a decrease of **0.3%** in this group.

An increase of **0.1%** in the index position of **Transportation group** was due mainly to increasing prices of fuel especially Petrol.

Tobacco Alcohol & Kava Tonga groups recorded no change throughout the month.

Misc. Goods and Services groups recorded an increase of **0.1%** in the index position of **April 2014** due to increase in price for medical health services & supplies.

Household Operation and Clothing and Footwear recorded no change throughout the month.

Detailed information from this release is available from the Statistics Department Or visit our website at www.spc.int/prism/tonga/