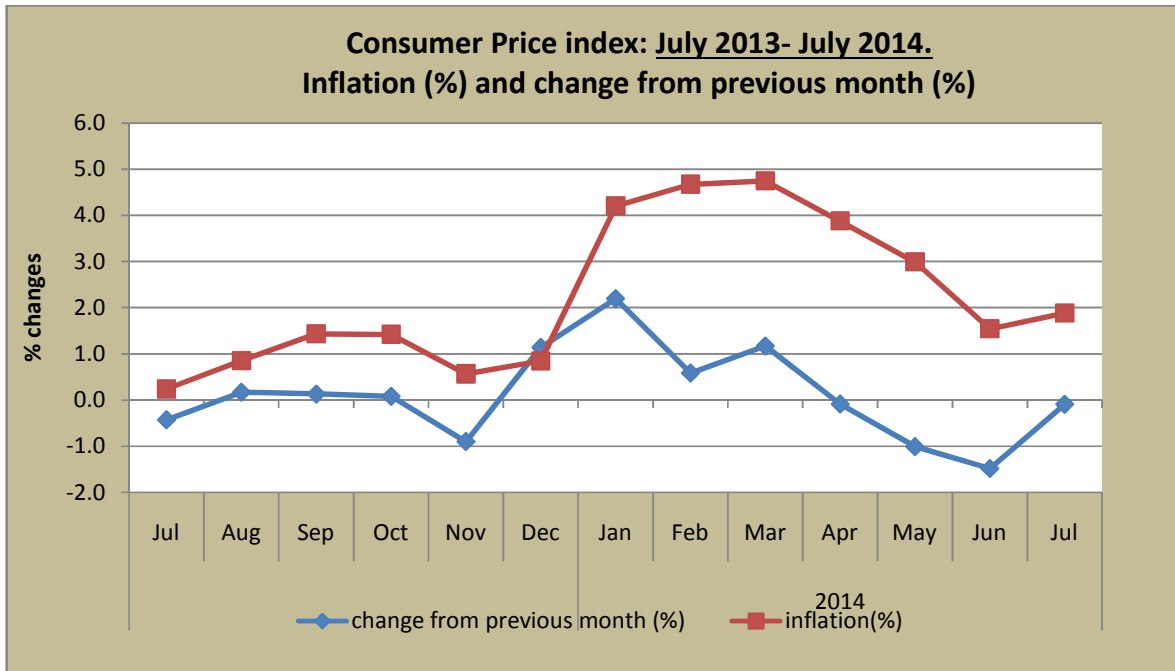




GOVERNMENT OF TONGA
STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
MEDIA RELEASE

Consumer Price Index for July 2014 recorded a decrease of 0.1%
With an Annual Inflation Rate of 1.9%



The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** for **July 2014** recorded a decrease of **0.1%** from **June 2014 (108.5)** and now stands at **108.4**. In comparison with the previous month, local index recorded a decrease of **0.4%** and import index increased by **0.1%**. For the previous two months, **June 2014** recorded a decrease of **1.5%** while **May 2014** decreased by **1.0%**

The **Annual Inflation Rate** for **July 2014** was **1.9%** compares to **1.5%** in previous month. The **annual inflation** for the same month of previous year, **July 2013** was **0.2%**. Local Index marked a decrease by **2.0%** while Imported Index increased by **4.6%**.

The **Food Group** marked a decrease of **0.2%** towards the index position of **July 2014**, due mainly to decrease in prices of some **fruits and vegetables** and **local seafood**. Prices of some imported items such as tinned & packaged food and frozen meat decreased throughout the months.

Housing index marked an increase of **0.3%** compared to the previous month due to increased in price of Timber.

Household Operations index marked a decrease of **0.2%** compared to the previous month due to decrease in price of LP gas.

Clothing and Footwear, Misc. Goods and Services and Alcohol & Kava Tonga groups index marked no change compared to the previous month.

Transportation group recorded an increase of **0.1%** in the index position of **July 2014** due to increased in price of Petrol.

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