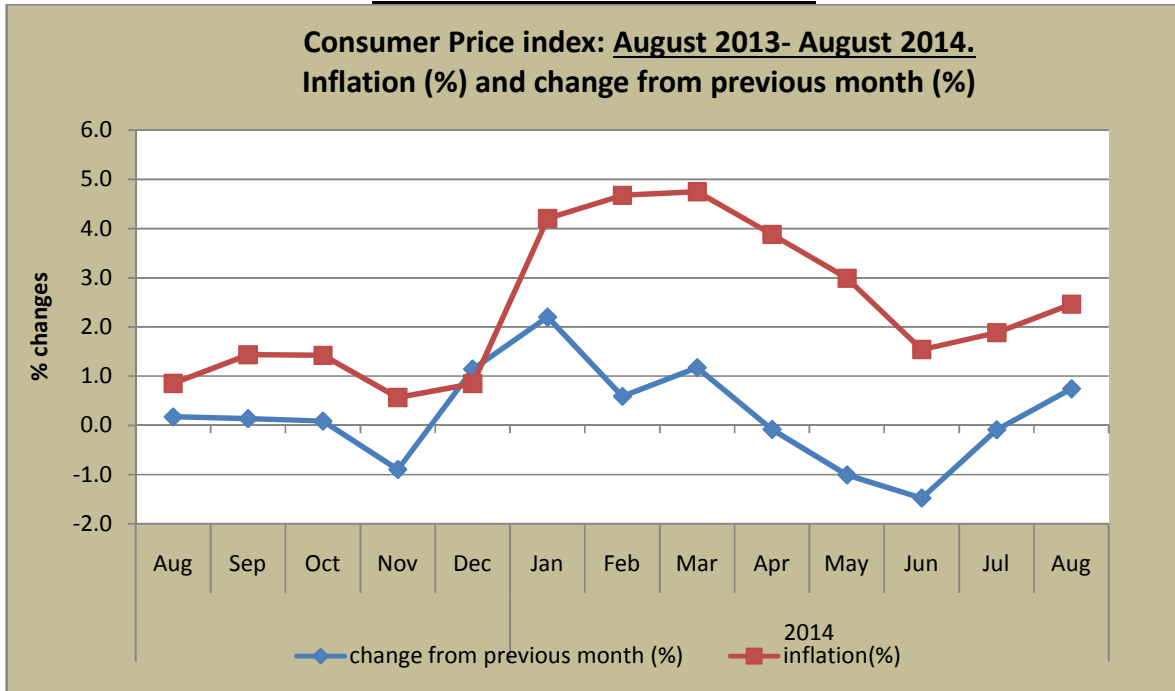




GOVERNMENT OF TONGA
STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
MEDIA RELEASE

Consumer Price Index for August 2014 recorded an increase of 0.7%
With an Annual Inflation Rate of 2.5%



The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** for **August 2014** recorded an increase of **0.7%** from **July 2014 (108.4)** and now stands at **109.2**. In comparison with the previous month, local index recorded an increase of **0.2%** and import index increased by **1.1%**. For the previous two months, **July 2014** recorded a decrease of **0.1%** while **June 2014** decreased by **1.5%**

The **Annual Inflation Rate for August 2014** was **2.5%** compares to **1.9%** in previous month. The **annual inflation** for the same month of previous year, **August 2013** was **0.9%**. Local Index marked a decrease by **0.9%** while Imported Index increased by **4.8%**.

The **Food Group** recorded the most significant increase of **1.8%** towards the index position of **August 2014**, due mainly to increased in prices of some **fruits and vegetables** and **Meat, fish & poultry**. Prices of some imported items such as tinned & packaged food and frozen meat increased throughout the months.

Housing index marked a decrease of **0.2%** compared to the previous month due to decrease in price of Paint.

Household Operations index marked no change compared to the previous month

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

Transportation group recorded a decrease of **0.5%** in the index position of **August 2014** due to decrease in price of both Petrol and Diesel.

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