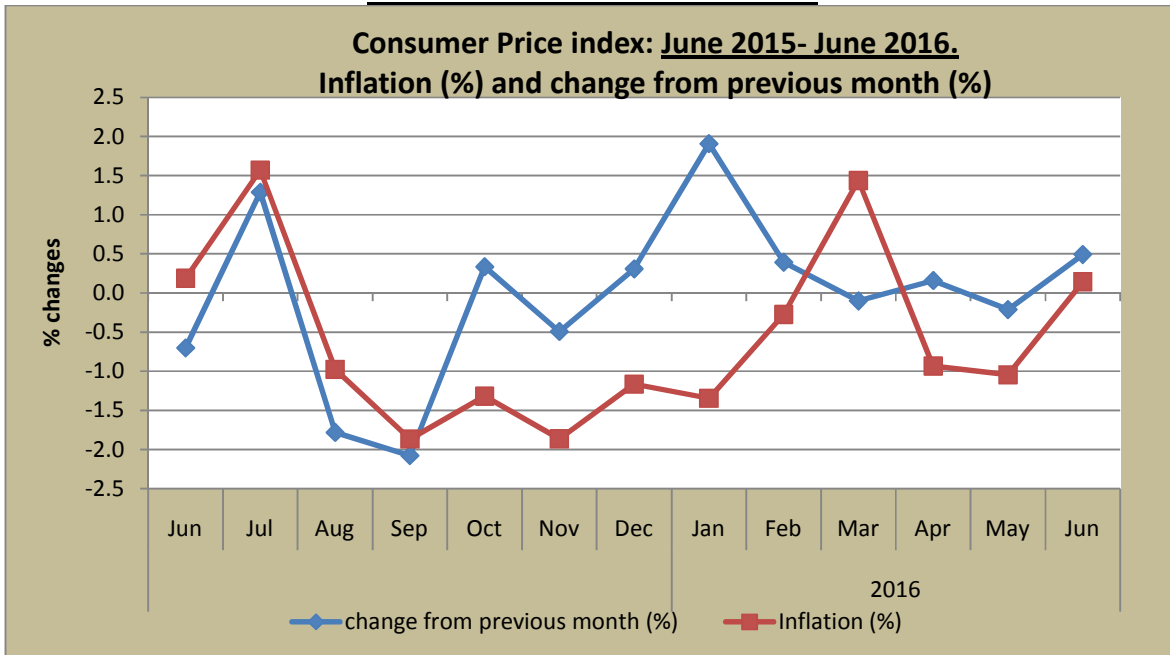




GOVERNMENT OF TONGA
STATISTICS DEPARTMENT
MEDIA RELEASE

**Consumer Price Index for June 2016 recorded an increase of 0.5%
With an Annual Inflation Rate of 0.1%.**



The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** for **June 2016** recorded an increase of **0.5%** from **May 2016 (108.4)** and now stands at **108.9**. In comparison with the previous month, local index recorded an increase of **0.2%** and import index increased by **0.7%**. For the previous two months, **May 2016** recorded a decrease of **0.2%** and **April 2016** increased by **0.2%**.

The **annual rate of inflation for June 2016** was **0.1%** compares to **1.0% Deflation** in previous month. The **annual inflation** for the same month of previous year, **June 2015** was **0.2%**. **Local Index** marked an increase by **4.8%** while **Imported Index** decreased by **3.3%** in **June 2016**.

Food Group recorded a decrease of **0.3%** towards the index position of **June 2016**. This was due to decrease in prices of some **fruits and vegetables** items. Prices of some imported items (tinned & packaged food, frozen meat) also decreased throughout the months.

Housing Group recorded an increase by **0.7%** towards the index position of **June 2016**. This was due to increase in price of **timber** compares to the previous month.

Household Operation group recorded a decrease of **0.1%** towards the index position of **June 2016**. This was due to decrease in price of **LP Gas** compares to the previous month.

Tobacco, alcohol & kava Tonga group index marked a huge increase by **4.9%** towards the index position of **June 2016**. This was due to increase in price of both **Tobacco** and **Kava Tonga** compares to the previous month.

Clothing & footwear groups index recorded no change compares to the previous month.

Transportation group index recorded a huge increase by **3.1%** towards the index position of **June 2016**. This was due to increase in price of both **petrol** and **diesel** compares to the previous month.

Misc. Goods and Services group index recorded an increase of **0.1%** due to increase in price of **cosmetics and toiletries** items compared to the previous month.

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